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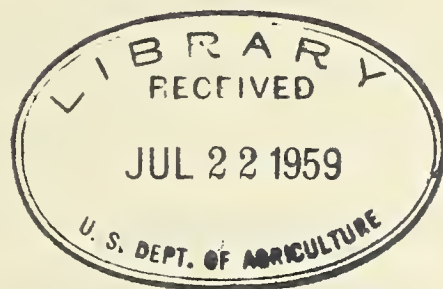
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AWARENESS AND USE AMONG ILLINOIS FARMERS  
OF USDA AND STATE AGRICULTURAL  
PUBLICATIONS

... A Survey of  
Commercial Farm Families



Office of Information  
U. S. Department of Agriculture  
Washington 25, D. C.

April 1958

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This is a report of a survey conducted by the Farm Research Institute, Urbana, Illinois, under contract with the Office of Information, USDA.

The Farm Research Institute collected the data during October 1957, then tabulated the data and prepared the original following report.

## Introduction

Purpose of Study

This study was designed to determine the extent to which farm families in Illinois know about, receive, and use USDA and College of Agriculture publications; ways in which they obtain publications; and the attitudes of farm families toward such publications.

Method and Sample

The mail questionnaire method was used to secure data from members of a fixed panel of Illinois farm families maintained by the Farm Research Institute. These panel members stand ready to answer questions submitted to them by the Institute. At the time of this study (October 1957) the panel consisted of 836 families. A total of 794 completed questionnaires were returned in time for tabulation.

The Institute panel of 836 families are reasonably representative of Illinois families engaged in farming on a commercial basis. The panel does not include small, part-time, and "suburban" farmers. Those who are included would be classified as commercial farmers by the U. S. Census Bureau. Each county in Illinois is represented in the sample.

For this particular study families were classified in terms of the estimated number of USDA and College bulletins, pamphlets (leaflets), and circulars they had received during the previous 12 months. The four groupings used for the number of publications received during the previous 12 months were: (a) none, (b) 1 to 5, (c) 6 to 15, and (d) 16 or more. These four classifications could be referred to as non-users, light, medium, and heavy users. Results were tabulated on this basis

so that knowledge and use of, and attitudes toward publications could be analyzed for each group.

A copy of the questionnaire used in this study is included here so that the actual phrasing of the questions can be noted when evaluating the character of answers given by respondents. A statistical summary of answers to each question that could be quantified is given in an appendix. Also in Appendix 5 will be found comments made by many farm families concerning their use of and attitudes toward USDA and College publications.

Department of Agriculture  
and College of Agriculture  
BULLETIN STUDY  
October, 1957

BUDGET BUREAU NO. 40-57159  
APPROVAL EXPIRES 12-31-57

Confidential Report to:  
FARM RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
The Meadows  
Urbana, Illinois

A.	G.
C.	H.
E.	

1. Before you received this questionnaire and letter did you know that USDA and College publications on farming, homemaking and gardening are available to farm families in Illinois?

(Check one in each column)

USDA COLLEGE  
Publications Publications

- a. Yes.....  
b. No.....  
c. Wasn't sure .....

2. Did you know that nearly all of these publications are free if you request them from the proper office?

(Check one in each column)

USDA COLLEGE  
Publications Publications

- a. Yes.....  
b. No.....  
c. Wasn't sure.....

3. Would you estimate the number of USDA and College bulletins, pamphlets (leaflets) and circulars you received during the last 12 months?

- a. none d. 11 to 15  
b. 1 to 5 e. 16 to 20  
c. 6 to 10 f. 21 or more

4. Of the publications you received, about how many were prepared by:

- a. USDA  
b. University of Illinois  
c. Other Colleges of Agriculture  
d. Don't know who prepared them

5. About how many USDA and College publications do you now have in your home?

(Check one in each column)

USDA COLLEGE  
Publications Publications

- a. none.....  
b. 1 to 5.....  
c. 6 to 10.....  
d. 11 to 15.....  
e. 16 to 20.....  
f. 21 to 50.....  
g. 51 to 100.....  
h. 101 or more.....

6. About when (month and year) did you last receive ...

- a. USDA publications, 19\_\_\_\_.  
b. College publications, 19\_\_\_\_.

7. In general, how much help have the USDA and College publications you received been to you?

- a. very much  
b. much  
c. some  
d. very little or none

8. How much of the information in USDA and College publications would you say is written or presented in a way that makes it easy to use. (Check one in each column)

IN USDA IN COLLEGE  
Publications Publications

- a. Nearly all  
b. About 3/4  
c. About 1/2  
d. About 1/4  
e. Hardly any

9. In general, how well does the information in these publications apply to your farm and your home problems -- in other words how practical is it for your family?

IN USDA IN COLLEGE  
Publications Publications

- a. Very practical  
b. Fairly practical  
c. Of little practical use  
d. Not practical

10. When you are looking for answers to a particular question, how easily can you find the information you want from these publications?

IN USDA IN COLLEGE  
Publications Publications

- a. Very easy  
b. Fairly easy  
c. Fairly difficult  
d. Very difficult

11. About how many times have you used ideas from USDA or College publications during the past month? \_\_\_\_\_
12. If you have not used an idea from either source in the past month, have you used one in the past year?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_, No \_\_\_\_\_
13. To give us an idea of the type of information you have used, will you please list one or more examples of things you ever did as a result of using a USDA or College publication?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
14. It helps writers of publications to know who are the main users of what they write. Will you please rate members of your family on their use of publications... 1 for most use, 2 for second-most, etc. Use a zero for members who make no use of publications. Leave blank where there is no such member in your family.  
a. \_\_\_\_\_ husband  
b. \_\_\_\_\_ wife  
c. \_\_\_\_\_ 4-H and Vocational Agriculture Boys  
d. \_\_\_\_\_ 4-H and Vocational Home Economics Girls  
e. \_\_\_\_\_ Other Boys  
f. \_\_\_\_\_ Other Girls  
g. \_\_\_\_\_ All others \_\_\_\_\_  
(Specify)
15. From what source(s) did you learn about publications you have received?  
(Check as many as apply)  
a. \_\_\_\_\_ County farm adviser, home adviser, or 4-H Agent  
b. \_\_\_\_\_ Direct from College of Agric.  
c. \_\_\_\_\_ Direct from USDA  
d. \_\_\_\_\_ Congressman  
e. \_\_\_\_\_ Newspapers, radio or TV  
f. \_\_\_\_\_ Magazines  
g. \_\_\_\_\_ Neighbors  
h. \_\_\_\_\_ Banks, salesmen, or dealers  
i. \_\_\_\_\_ Others: (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
16. From what sources have you received USDA and College publications? (Check as many as you have used)  
a. \_\_\_\_\_ County farm adviser, home adviser, or 4-H Agent  
b. \_\_\_\_\_ Direct from College of Agriculture  
c. \_\_\_\_\_ Direct from USDA  
d. \_\_\_\_\_ Congressman  
e. \_\_\_\_\_ Newspapers, radio, or TV  
f. \_\_\_\_\_ Magazines  
g. \_\_\_\_\_ Neighbors  
h. \_\_\_\_\_ Banks, salesmen, or dealers  
i. \_\_\_\_\_ Others: (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
17. From what source(s) do you prefer to get these publications, if you have a preference?  
a. \_\_\_\_\_ have no preference  
b. Preferred source(s) (List) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
18. To what extent have you read USDA and College publications you have received?  
a. \_\_\_\_\_ Read most of them completely  
b. \_\_\_\_\_ Usually looked up answer to specific question  
c. \_\_\_\_\_ Usually just scanned them  
d. \_\_\_\_\_ Usually didn't even look at them  
e. \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
(Specify)
19. Do you usually save publications you receive or do you throw them away?  
a. \_\_\_\_\_ Save all  
b. \_\_\_\_\_ Save most of them; throw a few away  
c. \_\_\_\_\_ Save a few; throw most away  
d. \_\_\_\_\_ Don't keep any
20. If you save USDA or College publications for future use, where do you keep them?  
a. \_\_\_\_\_ In a file cabinet  
b. \_\_\_\_\_ In a box  
c. \_\_\_\_\_ On a bookshelf or other shelf  
d. \_\_\_\_\_ In a notebook or other binder  
e. \_\_\_\_\_ In a drawer  
f. \_\_\_\_\_ No special place  
g. \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_  
(Specify)
21. Would you like to have the USDA and the College of Agriculture continue to prepare publications for you?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_, No \_\_\_\_\_, Don't care \_\_\_\_\_

We'd like very much for you to give us some of your impressions of specific USDA and College publications. So, we're giving you space to list publications that STAND OUT IN YOUR MIND as the best and the poorest you've seen. Then we'd like to know what made you feel that way about the publications you listed. Please be completely frank in your comments. (Use title or number of bulletin that will identify the specific bulletin.)

22. (a) Of all the USDA publications you have seen, which one did you think was best?

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(b) What about it made you feel that way?

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23. (a) Of all the USDA publications you have seen, which one did you think was the poorest? \_\_\_\_\_

---

(b) What about it made you think it was the poorest? \_\_\_\_\_

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24. (a) Of all the College publications you have seen, which one did you think was best?

---

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(b) What about it made you feel that way?

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25. (a) Of all the College publications you have seen, which one did you think was the poorest? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

(b) What about it made you think it was the poorest? \_\_\_\_\_

---

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26. We would appreciate it very much if you would use the space below or on the back of this page to add any other comments that will help describe your use of USDA and College publications. Also include statements about your attitude toward these publications, topics on which you'd like publications or any other points that come to your mind.



## SUMMARY OF RESULTS

## Summary

There seems to be widespread knowledge among Illinois commercial farm families (81.5%) of the existence of USDA publications. A somewhat lesser number (66.6%) seems to know that College of Agriculture publications are available. Most people who knew of availability knew such publications were free.

The degree of use of Government publications varies greatly among Illinois farm families. More than one-fourth (27.6%) indicated receipt of no publications during the past 12 months. Another 23.5% had received from one to five publications within that period. Recipients of from 6 to 15 publications made up 30.0% of all respondents, and heavy users (16 or more publications) accounted for 18.9% of the total.

When asked to indicate the degree of help (very much, much, some, very little, or none) received from publications, respondents varied in their reactions according to the extensiveness of their use of publications. Non-users, of course, would have no recent experience from which to react, but for users the modal response was to indicate "some help." Of the heavy users, however, 28.0% said they had received very much help.

Respondents have generally found both USDA and College publications fairly easy to read, reasonably well organized, and fairly practical in their application to farm problems. That knowledge of many publications is substantial is attested to by the large number of mentions as to types of information gleaned from publications that were used in farm operations.

Husbands are apparently the main users of publications, but wives are not far behind. Actually 73.4% of all husbands reported use,

followed by 61.1% of all wives. While the numbers of 4-H boys and girls are relatively small, in families with 4-H members such members are significant users of publications.

County Advisers appear to be the most common source for information about Government publications and as a place to obtain them. They also seem to be the source preferred by farmers who have a preference, although the great majority (60.8%) said they had no preference as to source of receipt. Congressmen ranked second as a source of information (tied with College of Agriculture), fourth as a source from which to receive, and a very poor fifth in preference as to place to obtain publications.

Readership seems to be fairly high, and most users save at least some of the publications they receive.

Most farm families want both USDA and College of Agriculture publications continued. Even among current non-users a third (32.0%) said they would like to have them continued. Among current heavy users 90.0% asked for continuation.

There is a correlation between heavy use of Government publications and the economic level of farm operations. The greater the value of products sold off the farm, the greater the use of Government publications. Heavy users also seem to be somewhat younger than the average of farm operators.

## **DETAILED FINDINGS**

## Detailed Findings

Complete answers to each question on the questionnaire are given in the statistical summary presented in the appendix. However, some of the highlights of the study are given and analyzed in this section.

### Knowledge of Availability of Publications

A large majority (81.5%) of all respondents reported that they knew USDA publications were available, and 79.3% indicated they knew they were free. A significantly smaller number, yet a majority (66.6%), stated they knew that College publications were available to them. Specific percentages are shown in Table I.

Table I

Extent to Which Farmers Knew  
That Publications Were Available and Free

Question	USDA	College
Knew Publications Were Available		
Yes	81.5%	66.6%
No	11.0	13.1
Not Sure	4.9	8.3
Knew Publications Were Free		
Yes	79.3	62.8
No	12.1	14.7
Not Sure	5.8	8.8

Knowledge of availability was almost universal among the medium and heavy users of publications, but only about one-half of the non-users recognized that publications were available. Slightly less than 40% of the non-users knew that such publications were free.

## Extent of Receipt of Publications

To obtain a measure of intensity and frequency of use, respondents were asked to indicate the number of USDA and College bulletins, pamphlets, and circulars they had received during the past 12 months.

Table II shows the results from that question.

Table II

Intensity of Use as Shown by  
Number of Publications Received in Last 12 Months

Number of Pbs. Received	% Answering
None (non-user)	27.6%
1 - 5 (light user)	23.5
6 - 15 (medium user)	30.0
16 or more (heavy user)	18.9

From these data it could be inferred that more than one-fourth (27.6%) of the commercial farmers in Illinois should be classified as non-users of either USDA or College publications. About one-half (48.9%) should be considered medium and heavy users.

The average number of publications received within the space of a year was 13.1 per farm family. College publications made up about two-thirds of this number, and USDA constituted the balance. (See Table III) Among light and medium users, however, USDA held a relatively higher position than was true among heavy users.

The number of publications respondents had in their homes at the time of this study ranged from none to more than 100. More than one-fourth reported no publications, and another fourth indicated 11 or more

Table III

Average Number of Publications  
Received Last 12 Mos. by Source

Type of User	Avg. # by Source		
	USDA	Univ. of Ill.	Other College
All Respondents	4.4	8.3	0.4
Non-user	--	--	--
Light user	1.3	1.7	0.2
Medium user	3.9	4.9	0.3
Heavy user	9.0	21.6	0.8

at hand. The number reporting 11 or more USDA publications on hand was almost identical to the number reporting 11 or more College publications in the home.

#### Help Received from Publications

Farm families did not express unbounded enthusiasm concerning the amount of help received from publications. Respondents were asked to check on a 4-point scale how much help they had received from USDA and College publications. The scale and results are shown in Table IV. As

Table IV

Amount of Help Received from  
Publications by Type of User

Amt. of Help	All Families	Type of User			
		Non-user	Light	Medium	Heavy
Very much	14.1%	2.7%	11.2%	18.1%	28.0%
Much	16.1	2.3	12.8	23.1	29.3
Some	44.2	19.2	64.3	54.6	39.3
Very little or none	10.1	21.0	11.2	3.8	2.7
No Answer	15.5	54.8	0.5	0.4	0.7

indicated there, not many reported they received little or no help from publications except those respondents who were non-users. Heavy users, as would be expected, received the most value from publications.

#### Specific Qualities of Bulletin Presentations

Questions were asked to ascertain farmer reaction to ease of use and practical character of publications.

Both USDA and College publications received a much better than average rating on all editorial factors. (See Table V) Ease of reading,

Table V  
Attitude Toward Editorial Factors  
in Publications

Questions	USDA	College
Amount of Material Written to Make It Easy to Use		
Nearly all	35.9%	35.9%
About 3/4	13.0	13.4
About 1/2	15.7	11.3
About 1/4	7.3	3.1
Hardly any	3.8	2.4
No ans.	24.3	33.9
Ease of Finding Information		
Very easy	9.7	14.2
Fairly easy	51.3	43.1
Fairly difficult	8.9	5.9
Very difficult	3.4	1.6
No ans.	26.7	35.2
How Practical for the Family		
Very practical	13.5	17.5
Fairly practical	49.7	40.8
Little practical value	12.0	6.8
Not practical	1.8	1.5
No ans.	23.0	33.4

ease of finding information, and the practicability of content seemed to be at a satisfactory level. A significant number did not answer questions pertaining to these points, but they were largely persons who had little or no acquaintance with publications. While both USDA and College bulletins were rated well, College publications had slightly better ratings than did those of the Department of Agriculture.

#### Extent of Use

Use of Government bulletins seems to be rather frequent. One-fourth (24.8%) of all respondents said they had used one or more ideas during the past month which were obtained from Government publications. An additional 31.0% stated they had used some idea within the past year. Thus, 55.8% of all farm families indicated they had put ideas to work during the past year. The comparable figure for "heavy" users of bulletins was 86.0%.

To get some indication of the nature of ideas used, respondents were asked to list one or more examples of the kinds of information obtained from publications that were put to use by them. Almost three-fifths (57.8%) of all respondents listed one or more ideas that had been used. A total of 197 different ideas were mentioned. The most frequently mentioned type of information that had been put to use dealt with fertilization and fertilizer. Other frequently mentioned types of information used included: planting recommended seed, marketing grain and livestock, raising chickens, freezing foods, homemaking, soil treatment, cooking, and weed control. The complete list of types of information given by respondents as examples of what had been used is recorded

in Table VI. The Table also shows the number of times each type of information was given.

Table VI

Examples of Types of Information  
Used and Frequency of Mention

Information Used	# of Men- tions	Information Used	# of Men- tions
Fertilization and fertilizer	57	Pruning	10
Planting recommended seed	33	Livestock feeding	9
Marketing grain and livestock	29	Operating machinery	8
Raising chickens	27	New varieties of crops	8
Cooking	25	Pasture improvement	8
Freezing foods	25	Refinishing and recondition- ing furniture	7
Weed killing and control	24	Used in Home Bureau	7
Homemaking	23	Building Septic tank	7
Insect information	22	Legal advice	7
Spraying	21	Terrace planting	7
Soil treatment	19	Hog disease	7
Livestock	19	Flower growing	7
Cattle feeding	18	Crop and animal management	7
Grain and bean storage	18	Built grass waterways	7
Hog feeding	17	Soil conservation	6
Sewing	17	Calf feeding	6
Sheep care	16	Silage	6
Farm building plans	15	Landscaping home	6
Hog raising	13	Built silo	6
Canning	13	Crop rotation	6
Building hog house	13	Raising corn	6
Market reports	13	Eggs	6
Building and remodeling	12	Drying and shelling grain	6
Strawberry raising	11	Health and sanitation	6
Disease of stock	11	Building of pond	5
Orchards	11	Building hen house	5
Gardening	11	Water system	5
Pasture seeding	10	Contour farming	5
Dairy	10	Fencing	5
Used in 4-H meetings	10	Raspberry care	4

Table VI (Continued)

Information Used	# of Men- tions	Information Used	# of Men- tions
Change of oat variety	4	Machinery attachments	2
Sheep feeding equipment	4	Poultry disease	2
Making farrowing pen	4	Sowing alfalfa	2
Cutting up meat	4	Planting Xmas trees and evergreens	2
General information	4	Business management	2
Seed selection	4	Hog raising	2
Changed variety of soybean	4	D.H.I.A.	2
Farming methods	4	Rabbits	2
Safety	4	Excavating trench silo	2
Showing cattle	4	Built feed bunk	2
Livestock buying	4	Care of lawn	2
Feeding methods	4	Electrical equipment	2
Mixing feed for cows	3	Disinfecting buildings	2
Brush control	3	Bought hay conditioner	2
Planning dairy barn	3	Judging dairy cattle	2
Pruning roses	3	Dairy management	2
Painting	3	Seeding schedule	2
Beef cattle	3	Built dairy feeder	2
Livestock breeding	3	Built self feeder	2
Built hay feeder	3	Small grains	2
Growing clover	3	Rearranging kitchen	2
Beekeeping	3	Building equipment	2
Seed treatment	3	Winter cover crop	2
Cattle guard for gates	3	Use of plastic silo cover	2
Raising vegetables	3	Wind break	2
Planting	3	Grape growing	2
Soybean care	3	Planting asparagus	2
Laying out fields for plowing	3	Oat growing	2
Farm outlook letter	3		
Feed grinding	3		
Tree planting	3	The following items each received one mention:	
Disease prevention for apples	2		
Fence laws	2		
Concrete treatment	2	Constructing hog feeder	
Planning home	2	Gestation time tables	
		Construction blueprints	
		Setting up farming with married son	
		Growing Sudan grass	

Table VI (Continued)

Information Used	# of Men- tions	Information Used	# of Men- tions
<p>The following items each received one mention:</p> <p>Used in teaching</p> <p>Constructing sheep manger and lamb feeder</p> <p>Built corn crib</p> <p>Horseshoeing</p> <p>Family finance</p> <p>Spraying ornamental shrubs</p> <p>Pruning evergreens</p> <p>Tenancy laws</p> <p>Farm drainage</p> <p>Poison ivy and oak</p> <p>Hitching implement behind tractor</p> <p>Changing variety of wheat</p> <p>Built cow barn</p> <p>Built hay feeding gates</p> <p>Erosion</p> <p>Forms for cement work</p> <p>Corrected light fixtures in home</p> <p>New nesting method</p> <p>Termite extermination</p> <p>Use of certified seed</p> <p>Building shed and brooder house</p> <p>Spraying oat bins</p> <p>Adjusting water trouble</p> <p>Growing grain sorghum</p> <p>Raising geese</p> <p>Fish pond culture</p> <p>Built bull pen</p> <p>Vaccinating dog</p> <p>Highway laws</p> <p>Corncrib ventilation</p>		<p>Corn experiments</p> <p>Cement work</p> <p>Made pig creep</p> <p>Built pump house</p> <p>Built cabinets</p> <p>Child care</p> <p>Roofing materials</p> <p>Curing meat</p> <p>Built loading pens</p> <p>Mixing feed</p> <p>Beef production</p> <p>Treating wheat</p> <p>Recreation</p> <p>Weather conditions</p> <p>Housing cattle</p> <p>Purchasing</p> <p>Construction ideas</p> <p>Illinois Farm Record Book</p> <p>Built salt troughs</p> <p>Built hot beds</p> <p>Built pole barn</p> <p>Moving evergreens</p> <p>Land clearing</p> <p>Handicraft</p> <p>Clothing information</p> <p>Soil bank participation</p> <p>Constructed concrete floors</p> <p>Life insurance buying</p> <p>Fur farming information</p> <p>Foods</p> <p>Dynamiting</p> <p>Poison plant check</p> <p>Farm improvements</p> <p>Land values</p> <p>Purchasing machinery</p> <p>Hog equipment</p> <p>Berry growing</p> <p>Built hay bunk</p>	

### Publication Use by Various Family Members

The male head of the family is seemingly the most frequent user of Government publications, followed closely by the wife. In total, 73.4% of all husbands and 61.1% of all wives reporting ranked their relative use of publications. The average ranking for husbands was 1.2 and for wives, 1.9. If husbands always used publications more than any other member of the family, the average ranking for husbands would be 1.0. Thus, the 1.2 average ranking for husbands indicates their use is almost always first. The 1.9 ranking for wives shows she is almost universally second in relative use.

Four-H boys and girls had rankings of 2.1 and 2.3 respectively, thus being almost equal in importance to the wife or mother. Complete figures for various family members by frequency of use are shown in the Statistical Summary in the appendix..

### Sources from Which Learned of or Received Publications

There are many sources from which farmers learn about and receive USDA and College publications. The most common source is the county farm adviser. The College of Agriculture and USDA have seemingly been more important as a source from which to obtain publications than as a source to inform farmers of the existence of them. Neighbors and business firms have played a relatively minor role in getting information and bulletins to farmers. Congressmen have been important but are low on the preference list of farm families. Media of mass communications have been important in disseminating information but have not been so important in distributing publications.

Comparisons are given in Table VII of sources of information about bulletins, where they were obtained, and the source from which farmers would prefer to get their Government publications.

Table VII  
Relative Importance of Sources of  
Information, Receipt, and Preference

Sources	Sources From Which		
	Learned	Received	Prefer to Receive
No preference	--	--	60.8%
County adviser or agent	58.8%	59.8%	9.4
College of Agriculture	30.0	46.3	8.3
USDA	25.7	39.3	5.3
Congressman	30.1	32.4	1.1
Newspapers, radio, TV	16.9	7.9	0.3
Magazines	23.8	12.6	0.8
Neighbors	6.3	2.9	0.0
Business firms	9.2	9.1	0.1
Others (largely FB)	5.9	5.3	2.8

In analyzing data in Table VII, attention should be given to the high degree of "no preference" on the part of farmers concerning the place where publications can be obtained. Perhaps the most significant aspect of stated preferences is the very low position given to congressmen as a source for publications.

#### Extent of Readership and Filing of Publications

Readership of Government publications received by Illinois farm families appears to be quite high. This is particularly true among the heavy users. Among that group 86.7% indicated they either read most bulletins completely or checked to obtain the answer to a specific

question. Very few (3.1%) indicated that they usually did not look at the publications received. Details are shown in Table VIII for farm families in total. Details for each class of farmers as to use are shown in the appendix.

Table VIII  
Extent of Readership and Filing

Question	Per Cent Answering
Extent to which Gov't publications received were read	
Read most of them completely	36.2%
Usually looked up ans. to question	26.6
Usually just scanned	17.6
Usually didn't even look	3.1
No answer	16.5
What is done with pbs. received	
Save all	15.0
Save most; throw few away	32.2
Save few; throw most away	26.8
Don't keep any	10.2
No ans.	15.8
If save, where they are kept	
In file cabinet	9.6
In a box	6.7
On shelf	12.8
In notebook or binder	8.6
In a drawer	36.4
No specific place	7.4
No ans.	25.7

Not many families keep all of the publications received. This is true even among the heavy users. On the other hand, even a smaller percentage of farm families throw their bulletins away after reading them. For those who keep their bulletins, the most common storage place is in a drawer.

### Desire for Continued Service

As shown in Table IX the great majority of all families, other than the group of non-users, want the USDA and College of Agriculture to continue to prepare and distribute publications.

Table IX  
Attitude Toward Future Publications

Question	All Families	Type of User			
		Non-user	Light	Medium	Heavy
Would like publications continued?					
Yes	68.5%	32.0%	74.9%	83.6%	90.0%
No	2.0	4.6	2.1	0.4	0.7
Don't care	15.1	18.7	17.7	14.3	8.0
No answer	14.4	44.7	5.3	1.7	1.3

### Attitudes Toward Best and Poorest Publications

Respondents were asked to specify the best and poorest USDA and College of Agriculture publications and to state the reasons for selecting them as such. A number of persons gave general statements to the effect that some good was obtained from all publications, that they were not qualified to answer, or that they did not know or could not remember specific publications well enough to make a judgment. For a quantification of such general answers see Appendix C, Statistical Summary.

More than a quarter of all respondents made specific selections of publications and comments that were not subject to quantification. Those comments are reproduced in Appendix B.

Respondents' comments were generally favorable. Even the relatively few who singled out specific publications as being poor often indicated

that some good was obtained from them. There seemed to be no particular difference in the reactions to USDA versus College of Agriculture publications.

### General Comments

Farm families were asked to make any comments they wished concerning Government publications. Many did so. Such comments covered a wide range of topics. They were freely given without the presence of an interviewer to perhaps bias or inhibit response. They are candid comments. A complete record of them is given in Appendix C. Little or no editing was done on them in order that the reader might get the full flavor of ideas as expressed in the respondent's own language. They should provide an editor with rich material for sensing the needs, wants, and attitudes of farm families as well as the frame of reference and idiom of the audience to which specific publications are to be directed.

### Personal Characteristics of Respondents by Extent of Publication Use

In order to get some measure of differences in respondents in each of the groups as classified by extent of publication use, certain personal data were tabulated for each group. Those data are presented in Table X. Characteristics included are area of residence, farm ownership status, gross value of products sold off the farm, and age of male head of the household. A map of Illinois is also included to show the area breakdown in the classification.

An analysis of Table X will show that the larger and perhaps younger farmer is the most extensive user of Government publications. The non-user is, on the average, somewhat older and farms either on a smaller

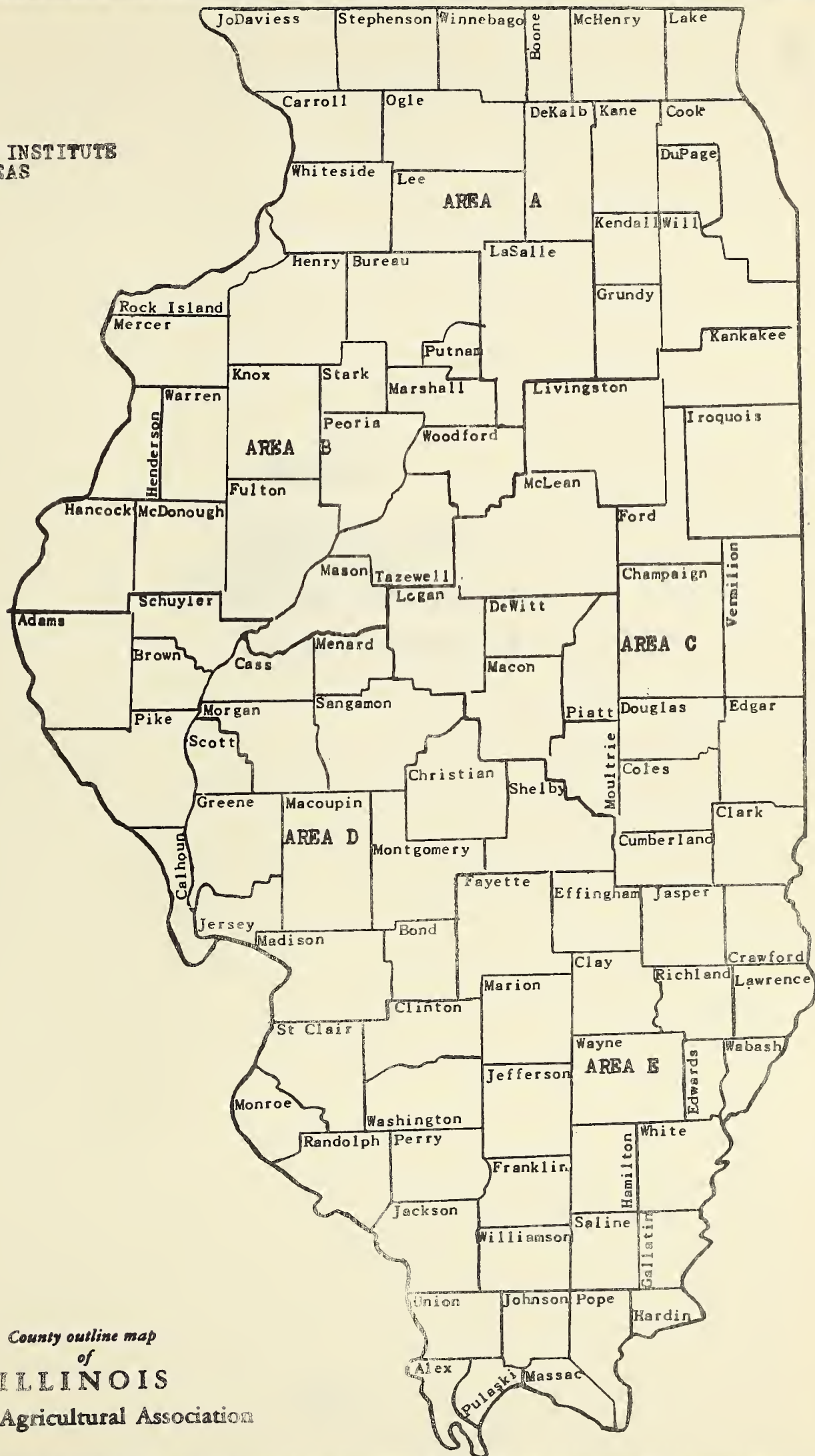
scale or on a less efficient basis than users of publications. There is, of course, nothing in these data to designate which is cause and which is effect, but it is interesting to note the correlation between high "value of products" and heavy users of Government publications.

Table X

Type of Publication Use by Farm Families  
Grouped by Specific Characteristics

Characteristics	All Families	Type of Publication User			
		Non-user	Light	Medium	Heavy
<b>Area</b>					
A. North	19.5%	16.0%	20.3%	21.4%	20.7%
B. North-West Central	18.1	20.5	15.5	18.1	18.0
C. East Central	22.9	20.5	24.1	22.7	25.3
D. South-West Central	19.0	22.5	18.2	16.8	18.7
E. South	20.4	20.5	21.9	21.0	17.3
<b>Ownership Status</b>					
1. Own all	29.3	32.4	25.7	32.4	24.7
2. Own some, rent some	31.2	28.3	32.1	29.4	37.3
3. Rent all	39.5	39.3	42.2	38.2	38.0
<b>Value of Products Sold</b>					
1. \$25,000 or more	10.2	3.7	8.0	10.1	22.7
2. 10,000 - 24,999	41.3	33.8	46.0	43.7	42.6
3. 5,000 - 9,999	29.8	34.7	25.7	31.1	26.0
4. 2,500 - 4,999	11.0	16.4	11.2	8.8	6.7
5. 1,200 - 2,499	6.3	9.1	8.0	5.0	2.0
6. 250 - 1,199	1.4	2.3	1.1	1.3	0.7
<b>Age</b>					
39 and under	31.1	30.1	31.0	28.6	36.7
40 - 49	29.6	23.3	35.3	31.0	29.3
50 - 59	23.0	26.0	21.9	24.4	18.0
60 and over	16.2	20.6	11.8	16.0	16.0

**FARM RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
PANEL AREAS**



County outline map  
of  
**ILLINOIS**  
Illinois Agricultural Association

## **APPENDIXES**

- A. Statistical Summary**
- B. Answers to Questions 22 to 25**
- C. General Comments**

APPENDIX A  
STATISTICAL SUMMARY

# Statistical Summary

USDA Bulletin Study  
October 1957

Question	State Total	By # of Pbs. Rec'd. Last 12 Mos.			
		None	1 - 5	6 - 15	16 and over
Number in Sample	794	219	187	238	150
<hr/>					
1. Knew publications were available					
USDA					
Yes	81.5%	53.8%	88.8%	91.5%	96.7%
No	11.0	28.8	6.4	3.8	2.0
Not sure	4.9	11.0	3.7	3.4	0.0
No ans.	2.6	6.4	1.1	1.3	1.3
College					
Yes	66.6	39.3	69.0	76.9	87.3
No	13.1	32.0	10.2	5.0	2.0
Not sure	8.3	11.0	11.8	5.9	4.0
No ans.	12.0	17.7	9.0	12.2	6.7
2. Knew they were free					
USDA					
Yes	79.3%	52.5%	84.0%	89.0%	97.3%
No	12.1	31.1	7.5	5.5	0.7
Not sure	5.8	9.1	8.0	4.2	0.7
No ans.	2.8	7.3	0.5	1.3	1.3
College					
Yes	62.8	37.4	62.6	71.0	86.6
No	14.7	33.3	12.8	6.7	2.7
Not sure	8.8	8.7	13.4	8.4	4.0
No ans.	13.7	20.6	11.2	13.9	6.7
3. Number of publications received in last 12 months					
a. None	27.6%	100.0%	--	--	--
b. 1 - 5	23.5	--	100.0	--	--
c. 6 - 15	30.0	--	--	100.0	--
d. 16 or more	18.9	--	--	--	100.0
4. Average number prepared by different sources as reported by those who knew source					
a. USDA	4.4 Avg.	--	1.3 Avg.	3.9 Avg.	9.0 Avg.
b. Univ. of Ill.	8.3	--	1.7	4.9	21.6
c. Other colleges	0.4	--	0.2	0.3	0.8

Question	State Total	By # of Pbs. Rec'd. Last 12 Mos.			
		None	1 - 5	6 - 15	16 and over
5. Number of pbs. now in home USDA					
a. None	29.0%	66.6%	23.0%	13.4%	6.0%
b. 1 - 5	27.1	10.0	40.7	29.4	31.3
c. 6 - 10	13.4	3.7	12.3	19.7	18.7
d. 11 - 15	6.4	0.5	5.9	9.2	11.3
e. 16 - 20	5.2	1.8	2.1	9.7	6.7
f. 21 - 50	6.3	1.4	4.8	7.6	13.3
g. 51 - 100	1.3	0.5	1.1	2.1	1.3
h. 101 or more	6.3	0.0	1.1	2.1	6.0
College					
a. None	25.9	58.0	24.6	11.3	4.0
b. 1 - 5	15.9	4.6	23.5	21.0	14.7
c. 6 - 10	10.7	2.7	13.9	15.5	10.7
d. 11 - 15	6.5	0.9	7.0	7.1	13.3
e. 16 - 20	4.8	0.5	1.6	6.7	12.0
f. 21 - 50	7.2	1.8	4.3	11.8	11.3
g. 51 - 100	4.5	0.0	2.7	5.5	12.0
h. 101 or more	2.4	0.5	1.1	1.7	8.0
6. When last received publication USDA					
a. Jan. thru May 1957	12.0%	--	27.3%	13.0%	8.7%
b. June & July 1957	8.7	--	12.3	11.3	12.6
c. August 1957	5.8	--	2.1	10.9	10.7
d. Sept. & Oct. 1957	19.1	--	10.2	26.6	46.6
e. 1957	2.4	--	2.7	4.2	2.7
f. 1956 and before	13.4	24.2	14.4	10.1	1.3
g. Don't know	5.8	3.2	10.7	5.0	4.7
h. No answer	32.8	72.6	20.3	18.9	12.7
College					
a. Jan. thru May 1957	9.6	--	19.3	11.8	8.0
b. June & July 1957	8.3	--	7.5	17.2	7.3
c. August 1957	4.7	--	3.2	9.7	5.3
d. Sept. & Oct. 1957	20.4	--	10.2	19.7	64.0
e. 1957	1.8	--	2.1	2.9	2.0
f. 1956 and before	7.9	15.5	10.7	3.8	0.0
g. Don't know	3.5	2.3	8.0	2.1	2.0
h. No answer	43.8	82.2	39.0	32.8	11.4
7. Amt. of help rec'd. from pbs.					
a. Very much	14.1%	2.7%	11.2%	18.1%	28.0%
b. Much	16.1	2.3	12.8	23.1	29.3
c. Some	44.2	19.2	64.3	54.6	39.3
d. Very little or none	10.1	21.0	11.2	3.8	2.7
e. No answer	15.5	54.8	0.5	0.4	0.7

Question	State Total	By # of Fbs. Rec'd. Last 12 Mos.			
		None	1 - 5	6 - 15	16 and over
8. Amt. of material written to make use easy					
USDA					
a. Nearly all	35.9%	16.9%	38.6%	41.7%	51.2%
b. About 3/4	13.0	4.6	9.6	17.2	22.7
c. About 1/2	15.7	3.7	25.1	20.2	14.7
d. About 1/4	7.3	1.8	12.8	8.8	6.0
e. Hardly any	3.8	7.3	3.2	2.9	0.7
f. No answer	24.3	65.7	10.7	9.2	4.7
College					
a. Nearly all	35.9	12.3	34.2	43.2	60.7
b. About 3/4	13.4	2.7	16.0	16.0	21.3
c. About 1/2	11.3	2.3	15.0	18.1	9.3
d. About 1/4	3.1	0.9	7.5	3.8	0.0
e. Hardly any	2.4	5.9	2.1	0.8	0.0
f. No answer	33.9	75.9	25.2	18.1	8.7
9. How practical for the family					
USDA					
a. Very practical	13.5%	7.3%	14.4%	14.7%	19.3%
b. Fairly practical	49.7	16.9	59.9	61.7	66.0
c. Of little practical use	12.0	10.5	15.5	11.8	10.0
d. Not practical	1.8	3.2	1.6	1.7	0.0
e. No answer	23.0	62.1	8.6	10.1	4.7
College					
a. Very practical	17.5	5.0	17.6	19.3	32.7
b. Fairly practical	40.8	10.5	44.9	56.8	54.6
c. Of little practical use	6.8	6.8	11.8	5.5	2.7
d. Not practical	1.5	3.7	1.1	0.8	0.0
e. No answer	33.4	74.0	24.6	17.6	10.0
10. Ease of finding information					
USDA					
a. Very easy	9.7%	3.2%	11.2%	12.2%	13.3%
b. Fairly easy	51.3	22.4	60.0	62.2	65.4
c. Fairly difficult	8.9	3.7	12.8	10.1	10.0
d. Very difficult	3.4	4.1	3.2	2.9	3.3
e. No answer	26.7	66.6	12.8	12.6	8.0
College					
a. Very easy	14.2	3.7	13.4	18.1	24.7
b. Fairly easy	43.1	14.2	50.8	52.6	60.6
c. Fairly difficult	5.9	2.3	8.6	8.8	3.3
d. Very difficult	1.6	2.7	2.1	0.8	0.7
e. No answer	35.2	77.1	25.1	19.7	10.7

Question	State Total	By # of Pbs. Rec'd. Last 12 Mos.			
		None	1 - 5	6 - 15	16 and over
11. Times used ideas during past month					
a. None or no answer	75.2%	99.0%	80.2%	62.6%	54.0%
b. 1	5.5	0.5	6.4	8.4	7.3
c. 2	7.8	0.0	7.0	12.2	13.4
d. 3 - 5	7.1	0.5	4.8	10.5	14.0
e. 6 - 9	2.4	0.0	1.1	3.4	6.0
f. 10 or more	2.0	0.0	0.5	2.9	5.3
12. Did those who used no idea in last month use in last year?					
Yes	31.0%	7.8%	36.4%	42.5%	40.0%
No	33.9	58.4	41.7	19.3	11.3
No answer	35.1	33.8	21.9	38.2	48.7
13. Number of ideas used					
None	4.2%	9.1%	2.7%	2.1%	2.0%
1	21.6	8.2	29.9	24.8	26.0
2	17.9	4.1	16.6	28.1	23.3
3	9.1	2.3	9.6	10.5	16.0
4	5.3	1.4	3.2	6.3	12.0
5 or more	3.9	0.5	2.7	5.5	8.0
No answer	38.0	74.4	35.3	22.7	12.7
(See text for specific ideas mentioned and frequency of mention.)					
14a. % family members indicating use of publications					
a. Husband	73.4%	25.1%	85.0%	86.6%	95.3%
b. Wife	61.1	21.9	69.5	75.6	84.7
c. 4-H boys	16.8	3.7	21.4	17.6	28.7
d. 4-H girls	13.6	2.7	15.0	16.8	22.7
e. Other boys	4.4	0.9	4.8	7.1	4.7
f. Other girls	3.7	0.9	4.3	5.5	4.0
g. Others	1.1	0.5	0.5	2.1	1.3
14b. Avg. ranking by mbrs. of family in their use of publications					
a. Husband	1.2Avg.	1.3Avg.	1.2Avg.	1.2Avg.	1.2Avg.
b. Wife	1.9	1.7	1.9	1.8	2.0
c. 4-H boys	2.1	1.6	2.0	1.9	2.4
d. 4-H girls	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
e. Other boys	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.9	3.1
f. Other girls	3.3	3.0	3.6	3.0	3.0
g. Others	2.7	3.0	3.0	2.8	2.0

Question	State Total	By # of Pbs. Rec'd. Last 12 Mos.			
		None	1 - 5	6 - 15	16 and over
15. Sources from which learned of publications					
a. Co. adviser or agent	58.8%	17.8%	64.7%	73.9%	87.3%
b. College of Agr.	30.0	6.4	26.7	33.2	63.3
c. USDA	25.7	6.8	24.1	29.8	48.7
d. Congressman	30.1	15.1	28.9	38.7	40.0
e. Newspapers, radio or TV	16.9	15.1	22.5	21.4	17.3
f. Magazines	23.8	8.7	28.9	29.4	30.7
g. Neighbors	6.3	3.2	5.9	8.8	7.3
h. Banks, salesmen, dealers	9.2	3.7	8.6	15.1	8.7
i. Others	5.9	4.1	8.6	4.3	8.0
16. Sources from which pbs. rec'd.					
a. Co. adviser or agent	59.8%	17.8%	66.3%	77.7%	84.7%
b. College of Agr.	46.3	8.2	42.8	60.5	84.0
c. USDA	39.3	8.2	38.0	51.3	67.3
d. Congressman	32.4	19.6	30.5	37.0	46.0
e. Newspapers, radio or TV	7.9	2.7	8.0	11.3	10.0
f. Magazines	12.6	3.7	15.0	16.0	17.3
g. Neighbors	2.9	1.8	2.1	4.6	2.7
h. Banks, salesmen, dealers	9.1	2.3	7.0	13.9	14.0
i. Others	5.3	3.7	7.0	5.0	6.0
j. No answer	18.6	60.7	4.3	1.7	2.0
17. Sources from which prefer to get					
a. No preference	60.8%	37.9%	65.8%	71.4%	71.3%
b. Co. adviser or agent	9.4	3.7	15.5	9.2	10.7
c. College of Agr.	8.3	1.4	8.6	10.1	15.3
d. USDA	5.3	11.4	4.8	6.7	9.3
e. Congressman	1.1	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.3
f. Newspapers, radio or TV	0.3	0.0	0.5	0.4	--
g. Magazines	0.8	0.0	1.6	1.3	0.7
h. Neighbors	0.0	0.0	--	--	--
i. Banks, salesmen, dealers	0.1	0.5	--	--	--
j. Other (Farm Bureau)	2.8	0.9	3.2	3.8	3.3
18. Extent to which have read publications received					
a. Read most of them completely	36.2%	15.1%	38.5%	42.8%	53.4%
b. Usually checked answer to question	26.6	9.1	31.0	34.9	33.3
c. Usually just scanned	17.6	12.3	25.1	20.6	11.3
d. Usually didn't even look	3.1	5.9	3.7	1.3	1.3
e. Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	--	--
f. No answer	16.5	57.6	1.6	0.4	0.7

Question	State Total	By # of Pbs. Rec'd. Last 12 Mos.			
		None	1 - 5	6 - 15	16 and over
19. What is done with pbs. rec'd					
a. Save all	15.0%	11.4%	17.6%	16.8%	14.0%
b. Save most; throw some away	32.2	13.2	36.4	42.8	38.0
c. Save a few; throw most away	26.8	9.1	29.4	32.8	40.0
d. Don't keep any	10.2	10.0	15.5	7.6	8.0
20. If save, where they are kept					
a. In file cabinet	9.6%	2.7%	7.5%	11.3%	19.3%
b. In a box	6.7	2.7	7.0	8.4	9.3
c. On bookshelf or other shelf	12.8	5.9	12.3	14.3	21.3
d. In notebook or binder	8.6	2.7	8.0	10.5	14.7
e. In a drawer	36.4	16.0	40.1	46.2	46.0
f. No special place	7.4	5.0	11.2	8.8	4.0
g. No answer	25.7	64.4	15.0	9.2	8.7
21. Would like pbs. continued					
Yes	68.5%	32.0%	74.9%	83.6%	90.0%
No	2.0	4.6	2.1	0.4	0.7
Don't care	15.1	18.7	17.7	14.3	8.0
No answer	14.4	44.7	5.3	1.7	1.3
22a. Which is best USDA publication?					
1. Receive some good from all	4.0%	1.4%	5.9%	5.0%	4.0%
2. Not used enough to form opinion	1.8	1.8	3.2	1.3	0.7
3. Not qualified to answer	3.3	0.5	7.0	3.4	2.7
4. Don't know, don't remember, not much difference	11.8	5.0	15.5	14.7	12.7
5. Never saw any or never received any	7.8	22.4	3.7	1.7	1.3
6. Specific answer given	27.0	10.0	24.1	34.9	42.7
23a. Which is poorest USDA pub?					
1. Received some good from all	7.9%	1.8%	10.7%	8.0%	13.3%
2. Not used enough to form opinion	1.4	0.9	2.7	1.3	0.7
3. Not qualified to answer	2.9	0.5	7.0	2.5	2.0
4. Don't know, don't remember, not much difference	16.2	4.1	16.6	23.5	18.0
5. Never saw any or never received any	0.3	--	--	--	1.3
6. Specific answer given	6.0	2.3	5.3	8.4	8.7

Question	State Total	By # of Pbs. Rec'd. Last 12 Mos.			
		None	1 - 5	6 - 15	16 and over
24a. Which is best College pub?					
1. Rec'd. some good from all	4.8%	1.4%	4.8%	7.1%	6.0%
2. Not used enough to form opinion	1.3	0.9	2.7	1.3	--
3. Not qualified to answer	2.9	0.9	4.3	2.5	4.7
4. Don't know, don't remember, not much difference	7.7	1.8	13.4	10.5	4.7
5. Never saw any, or received any	9.1	24.7	2.7	4.2	2.0
6. Specific answer given	29.1	6.4	26.7	37.0	52.7
25a. Which is poorest College pub?					
1. Rec'd. some good from all	9.6%	1.4%	10.7%	12.6%	15.3%
2. Not used enough to form opinion	1.3	0.9	2.7	1.3	--
3. Not qualified to answer	2.3	0.5	4.3	1.7	3.3
4. Don't know, don't remember, not much difference	13.6	3.2	15.5	16.8	21.3
5. Never saw any or never received any	1.0	--	--	2.5	1.3
6. Specific answer given	5.3	0.5	5.9	8.8	6.0

## APPENDIX B

Answers to Questions 22 - 25  
as given by respondents who  
listed specific publications  
and/or made specific comments  
about them are reproduced here.

Questions 22a and 22b

Best USDA Bulletins and Reasons for Selection

Best USDA Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Answers Given by Non-Users</u>	
Livestock diseases	No answer.
#2026 and #257	Written well and plain and easy to understand.
Soil treatment Treatment of livestock Treatment of chickens	They were in our line of business and helped us make a living.
#1772	Very specific and easy to understand.
Taming runaway waters	Shows profits made by controlling run off waters.
#1445	I never had a chance to go to high school and the bulletin helped me out in a lot of ways to make more hog profits.
Soil erosion Trees in Illinois	Interesting and informative.
Feeds Constructing various equipment from wood and concrete Gardening and flowers	I was interested in the use of these items.
Hog raising	I felt that they knew what they wrote about through experimental stations.
Insects	Complete information.
Growing holly	Wanted to know something about it.
Flea control	Hadn't been able to control them.
Saving the soil	I was interested because I had slopes that needed attention.
How to cook pork	There were good recipes.
Infant care	I think it is accurate. I have checked it with other books & they generally agree.

Best USDA Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Non-Users (Continued)</u>	
Berries	We were interested in them.
#900	Gives good ideas on homemade fruit butters, such as are seldom found elsewhere.
#1908	Has good meat recipes.
#1762	No answer.
Dehorning cattle	No answer.
Farm fences	It told how many posts and fence staples it would take to build a fence.
Meat cutting	I was interested in meat cutting and it was the most useful article I have read on meat cutting.
#839	Because it discussed so thoroughly all types of drying.
Soybeans	Interested in them.
<u>Answers Given by Light Users</u>	
#810	Good drawings and explanations of equipment.
Foul weeds	For spraying.
Trees	What is best for this locality.
Livestock feeding	Gave complete rations which farmers could use.
Livestock diseases	Because I raise livestock.
Crop reporting	The most accurate.
Erection of barns	It was very specific.
#961	Explained very well.
Fireplaces and chimneys	It has a lot of good ideas as well as the plans.

Best USDA Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Light Users</u> (Continued)	
Fertilizer and helping build fertility in soil	It was presented well and made good sense.
Building pole buildings	It was faster, stronger, and cheaper to build.
Crops in general	No answer.
Sheep raising on the farm	Its completeness in detail of management and care.
Livestock	They made a survey.
#1870	It covered the most variety of fruits and included berries. Told how, when, and what tools to use and treatment of pruning wounds.
Report on crop estimates	It helps one in the planning and marketing of grains and livestock.
Settlement of estates Low calorie food preparation Functions of the blood	Educational and helped me in everyday living.
Weed control	Seemed sensible.
Weed control	Showed me how to get rid of weeds.
Homemaking and gardening	No answer.
Quarterly livestock reports.	Gives you an idea of livestock on farms.
Cement work and forms	Lots of diagrams to help explain things.
#374	Deep interest in getting information and this filled my needs.
Fertilizer	Gave the facts.
Cattle diseases and sickness	That is what we were interested in.
Growing fruit for home use	Like to grow and know about fruits.
Poultry hints	It had some practical ideas which we as farmers can use.

Best USDA Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Light Users</u> (Continued)	
Crop report	Don't know.
Animal diseases	No answer.
Feeds and feeding	Was easy to understand.
Soil improvement	Needed this information.
Crop and livestock reports.	No answer.
Showing, fitting, and judging hogs	Only have a few but it is very informative. Have been using it in 4-H work.
Dairy	No answer.
Yearbooks	General coverage.
Marketing reports and trends	No answer.
#810	Well illustrated.
Forestry	Answered some specific questions on a tree problem.
Seed oats	No answer.
Side dressing corn	Gave me information on what ingredients it needed.
#1870	It explained every detail in easy to understand reading.
Fertilizers	Because I am more interested in that part of farming as I have no livestock.
#1554	It interested me.
Requirements for Grade A milk regulations	Because we switched over to Grade A and the information we used helped so much.
#1495	So complete in description of every pest I'd known or needed to know. Pictures were a great help.
Daily Chicago market report	I made use of some of the information and it is the only USDA one I ever have any use for.

Best USDA Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Light Users (Continued)</u>	
Farm Family account book	I like the method of accounting.
<u>Answers Given by Medium Users</u>	
Suburban and farm vegetable gardens	Up to date and complete and practical.
#626	It had a lot of illustrations and information I needed.
Care of dairy cows and Grade A barns	I was interested in this at the time.
#1813	Seemed to answer what I was looking for.
One on comparing custom hired work or do it yourself	I felt that it was about the right figures for my community and it verified my thinking as to cost of machine operation.
Soil and water conservation	Covered the subject in easy to understand language.
Home freezing of fruits and vegetables	No answer.
How to build a farm pond	No answer.
Prevention of insects	No answer.
Rabbit raising	My son liked it and used it for his 4-H project.
Agricultural situation	No answer.
Marketing service	It covers about everything a farmer is interested in.
Agricultural situation	No answer.
Diseases of swine #1914	Plain language.
Fertilizer	Results I got on yield of corn and oats.
Care of motors	

Best USDA Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Medium Users (Continued)</u>	
Remodeling dairy barn	Exact measurements listed & illustrated.
Hog diseases	It is a help in care of hogs.
Livestock price articles	Very interesting and to the point.
Publications which tell about over-production	I try to keep in line so my farm will pay.
Farm fences #1832	The completeness of detail.
Father and son farm operating agreements	It had some working plans.
Jam and jelly making	Practical for farm use. Simplified.
Cattle feeding	Well prepared.
#2010	It helped me correct a difficulty I was having storing corn.
Legumes. Grass lands. Hogs.	My farm can use these practices.
Home freezers	We have used it more than any others.
Terracing land	Possible way to save the land from washing away.
Crop and livestock surveys Why crop drying pays	Cut borer losses. Same equipment for several crops. Prevent price loss on damp grain.
Poultry and dairy	They are more fitted to our type of farming.
Sheep and chickens	Practical ideas.
Social security law	Because it pertained to what we were going to get and use.
Fruits and vegetables Care of livestock	They answer my questions.
Grain storage insects	Pointed out insects that were in my grain and gave control measures.

Best USDA Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Medium Users</u> (Continued)	
Hybrid seed publications	It led to improvement on corn yield on this farm.
Termites	So valuable.
#1549	It covers very well the 2 ways of handling cattle; the types of cattle required; feed requirements and supply of cattle.
Agricultural Marketing Service, Vol. 41, No. 7	The page on the outlook for the different grains and produce of the farm.
Farming hints and helps	No answer.
4-H booklets	No answer.
#1619	With corn acres limited one is interested in other crop rotations.
September 1957	It seemed to be more for the ordinary small type farmer.
Year book of agriculture	They are very informative and interesting reading.
Conservation reserve	Being corn growers we are interested in what is in store for the future.
#2005	Practical use.
Soils and fertilizers	No answer.
Year book Animal diseases	It is easily understood and would be worth several dollars if purchased privately.
Crop letter	No answer.
Summary of test yields	Arrangement.
Tree care	Tells about different varieties and when to plant.
Soils and Men	Gave me more precise data on soils suitable for the midwest corn belt farmer. It helped me on my soil building program.

Best USDA Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Medium Users</u> (Continued)	
F C S educational circular 2, Using your wool crop	No answer.
Raising and feeding swine	I think because I had good results.
Beef cattle	The rations.
Home and garden bulletin #1	Easy to understand.
Livestock and crop reports	Gives an idea when to market livestock and how to farm on grain.
Inheritance tax	Had a personal situation involving tax.
Laying out fields for tractor plowing	It gives very complete instructions and used diagrams.
Planting and inoculation of seed	Need for that kind of information.
Farmers Bulletin #1769	Learned a good bit about judging dairy cattle which proved profitable for me.
Bees	It told so much about bees I did not know.
Agricultural situation	No answer.
Bulletin on weed control	Results after following instructions.
Care of babies	Especially practical information.
Livestock feeding Farm machinery Fertilizer	They were helpful in solving some of our problems on those things.
Farm cast	Truly explains the rise and fall in farm outlook.
Sheep raising for small flock owners	I had no experience and publications were a fine guide.
How to build a farm pond	It is information that I am going to use now.
1955 Yearbook of Agriculture Water	My biggest losses came from drought and this book answers about every question on source and use of water.

Best USDA Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Medium Users</u> (Continued)	
Letter about notices of different types of meetings	They were helpful in my farming, such as soil tests.
Silo types and construction	Goes through all phases clearly.
Agriculture yearbook Soils and men	Soils information I have found no other place.
Timber #1975 Foundations #1869	Needed buildings and needed repairs on buildings.
1952 Yearbook of Agriculture	Usable information - a big help in control of insects.
Plant diseases and how to care for them	The explanations on caring for plants.
Care of soil Rotation Growing of legumes	Showed me a better way to improve my soil.
June 1957	Seemed as if I could use more ideas from it.
Home and garden bulletin #32 Bulletin on washing machine selection and use	Because of the impartial and concise information.
#1789	Clear and concise. Helps one to help himself.
Farmers Bulletin #2010	For commercial areas such as ours. Good illustrations, subject well covered.
Livestock outlook from Ill. Dept. of Agr. in cooperation with USDA	It gives a farmer a fairly good outlook on what to expect in the livestock market in the next few months ahead.
Infant care #8 Child from 1 to 6, #30	They are very complete.
Pork on the farm	We used this booklet for years as we do our own butchering. It had so many helps also on how to prepare the meat.

Best USDA Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Medium Users (Continued)</u>	
Soil testing	Was clear and concise and practical.
Agricultural situation	Like to know what experts think of the trend in agriculture.
Pond building & fish culture	No answer.
Poultry	No answer.
<u>Answers Given by Heavy Users</u>	
Insects	Valuable information on new types of insects.
#2071	Adequate drawings and illustrations. Simplified with main points easy to find.
Agricultural situation	It gives you a good idea of the way things stand for farming.
Yearbook	General information.
Breeds of sheep for the farm Care of the farm flock Parasites and their control	Much of my interest lies in sheep so naturally I like and find these most interesting and useful.
Yearbook 1956 Animal disease	My yearling steers got what I thought was diarrhea this summer so I started reading this book and I came across coccidiosis. I called a vet and sure enough.
Care of farm machines	Clear cut.
#1260 Stored grain pests	Good information.
Better farming	It gives the immediate outlook on farm commodities for sale.
Agricultural situation	It keeps up to date, gives predicted trends.
Yearbook of agriculture Insects	It is a complete and accurate account of all types of insects. Our children use them (Yearbooks) a lot.

Best USDA Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Heavy Users</u> (Continued)	
Last year's animal diseases	It's very practical about describing diseases and prepared by a qualified vet. for each disease.
Agricultural situation Market & livestock situation	Information contained within.
Agricultural situation	Comes each month.
Agricultural situation	General information.
Agricultural situation	I like to find out what they think about future prices.
Home freezing of fruits and vegetables Diseases of animals	They gave me the up to date information I needed.
Prices	Compared prices.
Farm buildings	Mostly because I used some of the ideas.
Outlook letters	You need a helping hand to know whether you should keep or move things on the market.
Land values	It was what I was and am interested in for the future.
Symptoms of livestock diseases and recommended handling of livestock	Our main interest is livestock.
Conserving corn balt soil Birds useful to the farmer Roses for the home	The information interested me.
Monthly crop report of Agriculture marketing service	No answer.
Agricultural situation	Gives you a check against other information.
Weed and brush control or spraying.	Useful information.

Best USDA Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Heavy Users (Continued)</u>	
Feeding of beef cattle Care of the poultry flock	I received some profitable advice on both subjects.
Bulletin on farm leases	Very much to the point.
#2007 Mixing fertilizer on farm	It explains complete amount, kind, precautions and provides instruction for making mixtures.
Bulletin on fire prevention	More information.
1942 Yearbook of Agriculture	Use it often for diagnosis of diseases.
Publications on building plans, remodeling, etc.	I have remodeled a farm house and modernized it. I got good ideas from these plans.
Crops and crop insurance	No answer.
Monthly news market report	Thorough and easily understood.
Livestock forecasts & trends	Up to date.
News letter issued by county FB through USDA	Information pertained to your own area rather than a general picture.
Insurance for farmers #2016	It was something I was interested in, complete coverage of the subject, easy to understand.
Livestock housing	Practical and use it a lot.
Homemaking and gardening publications	Because the information given is so practical we can apply it to our own use.
#2010 #1592 #1135	Very easy reading and simply stated.
Farming on contour	Gave me some good ideas on getting rid of so many point rounds.
Swine production	Very much interested in hogs.
Co-op marketing service (1) Agricultural situation (2)	Could recite many examples which are helpful in my service on co-op boards, (1) Help in planning farm operation (2).

Best USDA Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Heavy Users</u> (Continued)	
Agriculture situation	It gives me an idea of how the agriculture situation as a whole is progressing.
Home Garden Bulletin #14	Guess I was interested in it more than some of the others.
Raising sheep on the farm	Completeness. Care, management, and preparation for market.
European corn-borer	No answer.
Agricultural situation	No answer.
Agricultural marketing situation	It keeps me informed on grains, livestock, dairy, and poultry outlook.
Agricultural situation and marketing service	No answer.
Agriculture Yearbook	Complete coverage.
Agricultural marketing service	They cover worthwhile subjects.
Insects and diseases of vegetables in the home garden	It tells what to spray with and helps make a crop.
Bulletin #99 Conquest of the land through 2000 years	It tells the conservation story as it has taken place from the Stone Age to the present.
Miscellaneous Bulletin #652 Managing farm finances	In a very simple manner it discusses instruments of credit which every farmer should understand.
Crop reports	Gives an unbiased report on conditions all over the nation.
#25	Outline is good.
#2009 & #2010 Storage of small grains & storage of ear corn	Very complete information with diagrams and pictures to illustrate.
#1873	Instructions so complete - very good and clear illustrations,
Farm drainage Bulletin on orchard care	Very good information and complete.

Best USDA Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Heavy Users (Continued)</u>	
Market report	No answer.
National 4-H news	Gave all information as to where to get other pamphlets.
Proved sires bulletin ARS-44-1	It contains so much practical scientific information. But it contains too many "preliminary proofs" and not enough summaries and more extensive proofs.
Livestock and crop estimates	Plan production by them.
Proven sire reports	Lists all provings of sires on D.H.I.A. work in U. S.

Questions 23a and 23b

Poorest USDA Bulletins and Reasons for Selection

Poorest USDA Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Answers Given by Non-Users</u>	
Recipes for milk	Everyone should have known these things without having a bulletin.
Recipe folder on pickling cucumbers.	No recipes our family cared for.
Farm plumbing	Too old-fashioned.
Making of suits	Instructions too complicated.
#1795	Too much statistics.
<u>Answers Given by Light Users</u>	
Vegetables (rec'd. in 1937)	Out of date and behind the times.
Poultry house and fixtures	Has not been revised since 1934.

Poorest USDA Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Light Users (Continued)</u>	
Krumping hay	If it rains it's worse than if it were not krumped.
Proper late beans to sow	It was hard for 1st year 4-H to read and understand.
Achieving a balanced agr.	Too long and too deep a subject.
Our govt. - country & state	Hard to understand and poorly written.
#1001	On too large a scale for ordinary family. One family could not possibly use all or even most of the fruit.
Home gardening	This one just talked all around the subject and really didn't say anything on what I needed to know.
Beekeeping	Felt that the author did not know bees.
#1584	Outdated and very poor on feedlot equipment.
<u>Answers Given by Medium Users</u>	
Home building plans	Not enough details.
Market situations	Very hard to understand. Too brief to gather accurate information. Cover too much territory for average farm.
January 1957	No ideas fit me.
Preventing cracks in new wood floors	I didn't find anything I didn't already know.
Honey production	Least useful.
Making of silage	Out of date.
Truck farming	Was not my type of farming.
Crop report	Incorrect.

Poorest USDA Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Medium Users (Continued)</u>	
Some of the forecasts on poultry and egg prices	It was all wrong. Prices kept dropping on both poultry and eggs. They had said how many fewer eggs in the country and how much higher the price would be in the fall.
Most of the ones on raising animals	They are always written with the idea of having a perfect set-up which is impossible for most of the young farmers to have when they start out.
Silage	It was old fashioned. Back in the horse and buggy days.
#331 Drying shelled corn and small grain with heated air	No good arrangement for emptying dryer bin. Very poor. No definite plans for dryer bin.
A couple of the Yearbooks	Perhaps because I was not interested in the subject.
Pig crop	With falling prices I think they should do something to keep prices up and not worry a farmer to his grave.
Raising corn	It was about 50 years behind the times.
Raising hogs for profit	Behind the times.
Heating the farm home #1698	The subject is very broad and the bulletin cannot deal in detail with the specific type of heating you may be interested in.
Chickens	Out of date. O.K. in the 1900's.
<u>Answers Given by Heavy Users</u>	
Cheesemaking at home	Was not clearly written or up to date.
#1132	Arrangement of material.
Farm plumbing	House plumbing instead of farmstead.
Raising popcorn	Don't raise popcorn.

Poorest USDA Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Heavy Users (Continued)</u>	
On feed and milk production	Too much statistical data and not enough explanation.
Fence laws	Each state has a separate law.
Fireproofing fabrics	Out of date and hard to understand.
Livestock report	I think it hurts the market.
Pamphlet on prices	Can't find any use for it.
Forestry	Does not apply to my set up.
Planting the roadside #1481	Far too complex diagrams. Made for unsafe driving.
Illinois moisture - week by week summary	Not useful. Will vary greatly within a mile. Can read about general crop conditions in paper.

Questions 24a and 24b

Best College Bulletins and Reasons for Selection

Best College Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Answers Given by Non-Users</u>	
Feeds Gardening and flowers	I was interested in the use of these items.
Feeding beef cattle for show	One used most.
Tree planting	I was especially interested in the subject.
Circular #686	There were always some doubts in my mind on making silage. This book straightened me out on them.
Meeting the nitrogen problems on Illinois soils	Points the way to greater profits.
Midwest Farm Handbook - Iowa State College	Information on every phase of farming in one book. Information easy to find.

Best College Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Non-Users (Continued)</u>	
Circular #587	It contained the exact information we wanted.
Vegetable and fruit growing, canning and meat cutting	Information was used.
How to prepare wild game	It told a variety of ways to cook wild game that I didn't know about.
Weed control with spray	We need weed control.
Breeds of dairy cattle #543	History of cattle told of milk records.
Unit #117	The very thorough way it was prepared.
#434 University of Missouri	It was very practical and covered a subject I needed badly. (Missouri soil saving dam.)
Swine sanitation	I felt they knew through experience.
<u>Answers Given by Light Users</u>	
Household care and cleaning Freezing cooked & prepared food	I felt I saved money using recipes for cleaning preparations and finishers. Freezing information very useful.
Yearly spray bulletin for commercial orchards.	It recommended use of best and most economical materials and times to use them. Orchard is my primary interest.
Chemical control of weeds and brush	I have weeds and brush to kill.
Rout the weeds	This is one of man's worst enemies. Trying to raise a crop is something all farmers are interested in.
Construction of different types of farm buildings.	No answer.
Dairy manual for 4-H	An inexperienced person can follow all the way through and prepare animals for show.

Best College Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Light Users (Continued)</u>	
Pest control in commercial fruit plantings #653	It completely covers the control of different pests of commercial fruit. It is very useful.
#554 Labor saving hog equipment #557 Fight animal disease	They interest me.
Strawberry culture	It explains things and my berry patch was the best I ever had.
Growing winter wheat for 1958	It has a thorough discussion on raising wheat.
Nitrogen fertilizers	I am quite a user of fertilizer. Therefore feel I can apply more correctly.
Sheep manual for 4-H members #648	It was written so young and old could understand.
Soil testing	Gives me an idea of what my soil needs.
Pastures for Illinois #647	Because I got the most good out of it and felt it was the most interesting. It was a little more up to date than some.
AY 100 Purdue Agronomy Dept.	It deals with manganese deficiencies in county where I live and have a farm.
#648 Sheep manual	A clear, concise and thorough picture of sheep raising.
#508 Bramble fruits	We wanted to start a patch for our home garden and knew nothing about the subject. This supplied all we needed and was very successful.
Insect control and spray	It was current and up to the minute in advice and accurate for our condition.
#534 Sheep enterprise	No answer.
#562 Self feeders of hogs	Complete building instructions.
#557	It is a complete, concise, illustrated and easy to understand list of animal diseases which farmers need to know.

Best College Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Light Users (Continued)</u>	
Law for the farm	It meets some of the points.
#1437 Swine production	The results obtained.
#637 Corn borer control	
#671 Common vegetable insects	
Care and handling of livestock for 4-H clubs	Good sound reasoning and advice.
A. type hog house	The simplicity of construction and practicality -- all this was easy to understand in the publication.
Kendall County soils	I found it helpful and instructive for studying the soil on this farm.
Tractor care and maintenance	Some valuable ideas that helped save money.
#747 Inheritance tax	No answer.
Pole sheds	Simple procedures.
Sheep enterprise	It helped us start right in raising sheep.
Illinois farm outlook letter	Easy to see what part you are interested in and it usually hits on all subjects of interest.
Plans for farm buildings and livestock equipment	It sounded some good pictures or plans of farm buildings and equipment plans of what could be ordered.
Pattern alteration HE - Pl9	One thing I knew very little about and needed help on as I do a lot of sewing. Very easy to understand and follow.
Illinois pasture improvement	Thorough and practical.
Good cakes every time #G-149	The cakes were superb.
#703 Five steps in pasture improvement	They are all good on their particular subject.
Sheep manual #648 You make your own clothes	Covers the sheep well enough to answer most of the questions that arise in a small flock.

Best College Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Light Users</u> (Continued)	
Soybeans	Much good information.
Farm management - Facts and opinions	Concise, accurate.
Soil	We are interested in keeping the soil up to par to produce well.
Farm and Home Bureau and 4-H literature	It helps all members of the family.
September 1957	It seemed to be more for the ordinary small type farmer.
Custom rates for the use of power operated farm machinery, AE 3110	Well planned and at a glance one can see the average price without going through the book.
Poultry	It gives seasonal hints.
Past records on feeding stock	No answer.
#743 How to make good gross legume silage	I followed the information and got along fairly well.
Weed control in corn	Time to spray, amount to use, caution to use, were all given in this leaflet.
Soil building with legume #539	Presents a fertility program using legumes, fertilizer and animal manure, and the expected response on different types of soil.
Questions and answers on feeding beef cattle	Brief and concise answers.
Pamphlets and movies on corn picker safety	It drove home the importance of taking that extra time to do it carefully.
Ideas for home improvements	Many hints and suggestions were useful in the home.
Handling northeastern Illinois soils.	Interesting. Many photos.
Farm buildings	No answer

Best College Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Light Users</u> (Continued)	
Outlook	No answer.
Economy in farm buildings	It fits my building needs.
Gasoline vs. diesel fuel for farm use	Just to know under test what you could expect in way of expense and cost from each.
#599 Illinois plants poisonous to livestock	Very well illustrated, easy to understand.
4-H letter to 4-H leaders	I'm always looking for this publication. It helps out in 4-H leading.
Your hog business #719	It explains clearly so you can understand.
Hog care and production	Most interested in raising hogs.
Rat control for city and farm	It was easy for 4-H children to understand and explain.
Booklet on leptospirosis	Probably because that was the information we needed.
Windbreaks #38	Covers subject completely. Math work easy to do as explained.
4-H book	They are very easily understood.
#724 Soil treatment	It helps me to know when and how to apply the minerals that my soil needs.
Feed circular	They give very good information for a 4-H beginner.
Freezing fruits and vegetables	Supplied the needed information.
Macoupin County	I happen to like to study maps and this one shows lots of new things I never knew before.
Grass or gullies #593	Most practical and an important farm problem.
Making wills and inheritance tax	A college publication should know the laws.

Best College Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Light Users</u> (Continued)	
Soil building with legumes Brownstown soil experiment	Fine explanation of soil building.
Unit on workshops	I like the information because I like to do things myself.
Cattle and sheep feeding	They were well written and interesting.
Different varieties of oats	I would like to get an oat that stands good and resists rust and is a good yielder.
Home landscape	I was interested in the subject.
Protecting your soil #667	It got me started on a soil conservation plan.
Illinois soils vary greatly in productive capacity	Maps showing the difference in soils and first frost dates.
#717 Compensation for Illinois farm land taken by the public	This circular really gave me the direct answer that I wanted on the particular subject as a new highway is planned near here.
Seed corn bulletin #605	The way it was made up.
How to build a good milk house	It is in book form with many plans that are all easy to understand.
Hone production #566	Explained very well.
Prices of grain, hay, etc.	It was right to the point.
Soybean diseases	The results were arrived at by experienced men.
#602	It tells how to prepare and freeze fruits and vegetables.
Small grain Trees	New types of oats. Trees and shrubbery.
Fattening lamb for market #523	It has everything in it and yet is to the point.

Best College Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Answers Given by Medium Users</u>	
Beekeeping	Found out by practice.
Tractor care & maintenance	Complete, self-explanatory.
Pest control #767	Because we have an orchard of several kinds of fruit and this lists how to spray and prune.
Feeding dairy herd #677 Housing for dairy farm #694	Feeding and housing was stressed as important.
Illinois corn test variety performance	It gives non-partial or independent results on corn tests.
Soil report #43 Douglas County soils #1929	Soil survey map of Douglas County. Gives kind of soil on your own farm and how to treat it for producing crops.
#758 #667	They apply to me and the problems on my farm.
Household care and cleaning Illinois corn tests and Illinois farm drainage #751	Because of wanted information.
Refinishing furniture and recaning	I could go ahead and do a competent job my first try.
#732	Presented the problem very clearly and gave valuable information on beautifying and making serviceable a modern farm. Very advanced information.
September 1957	Because I have a son and daughter in college.
Corn, oats and soybean tests for Illinois	Gives pertinent results that I can use to select my seeds for each year.
Simerl letter	Gives late trends and thoughts in economics.
Storing grain Care of tractor Care of livestock	You follow their way to do it and you are sure it is right.
Ill. corn test variety program	Pertinent and usable information.

Best College Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Medium Users</u> (Continued)	
Making home breads	This seems to be a lost art in most families and the instructions and recipes were very easy to follow.
Garden guide	Good directions and information. Reliable.
Save the soil with contour farming and terracing	It is detailed in information and explanations and is very easy to understand and do.
Irrigation guide for designing sprinkler systems	I had use for such information.
Soil and corn	No answer.
Galvanized roofing for farm buildings	I recently overhauled my feed and truck storage building and found it to be helpful.
Insects and fungus spray Weekly spray schedule of Ill.	It is very useful to me since I raise fruit.
Illinois corn performance tests	Gives field comparison under same conditions.
Feeding beef cattle	It seemed like a very good way to handle cattle on my farm.
Dairy ration book	Because it had rations of feed that I was particularly interested in.
Soil conservation	No answer.
Poultry	It was instructive.
#360	Got a lot of information which led to a clean herd for me.
Home Bureau news letter	Helpful information concerning the home.
Hog & cattle ration feeding	Proven facts explained.
Potassium #765	Artistic, complete information, illustrations.
Landscaping Radio programs.	It helped my home problems.

Best College Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Medium Users (Continued)</u>	
Law for the Ill. farmer #632 Feeding the dairy herd #677	Learned many things I didn't know.
Illinois swine growing	The feed ration and taking care of hogs.
Monthly report on livestock outlook	Because I am a feeder and it might help me decide when to sell.
Monthly poultry suggestions	We have chickens and there are good suggestions in it.
Soils	Because of my interest in good production.
Sheep	Good ideas.
Poultry	It is, or seems to be, more complete.
How to pick your feeding system Farm leases	Gave so much needed information for cattle feeders and analysis and proof of different methods.
Series put out in 1946 & 1947	It was a series of many things and was full of much information.
Permanent system of soil fertility for Illinois	It was way ahead of anything that had been published at that time.
Soil building with legumes	Legumes build up your soil and add organic matter and nitrogen.
#703	Because it helped me improve my pasture program.
Hog publication	No answer.
Garden guide Vegetable storage	Helped in several ways.
Pasture improvement	Information applicable to my problems.
Six steps in adjusting mold-board plows	Well illustrated, easily understood, practical.
Erysipilas	It had a lot of good information.
Pasture improvement management #465	I could use the information given in it.

Best College Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Medium Users (Continued)</u>  How to prepare fruits and vegetables for freezer storage	This much complete information was not readily available from any other source.
<u>Answers Given by Heavy Users</u>  Ill. farmers outlook letter  Freezing & canning at home  Ones available at Home Bureau  Ill. farmers outlook letter Farm management report  Poultry  #777 Morrow plots  Illinois plants poisonous to livestock #599  Fruit  #557  #758  Ill. farmers outlook letter #632 #660 #711 #667  Acreage of crops and yields by Dept. of Dairy Science  Lambs Honey production Brucellosis of cattle	Keeps you up on the current marketing situation.  Concise, easy to read and understand.  They are given as lessons.  Get most good from them.  Seems to be usable information that was not too expensive to follow.  It was very interesting and informative since we have seen and studied these plots.  It has colored pictures of the plants which are true to life and shows and explains symptoms of animals poisoned.  General information.  It gives you a pretty good idea of sick stock and what to do about it.  Well written. Good pictures. Good coverage of subject without getting too technical.  These are all tops.  Gives results of counties in Ill. and their butterfat, milk, and dry cow percentages.  They just told me what I wanted to know.

Best College Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Heavy Users</u> (Continued)	
Brownstown soil experiment field bulletin	Most helpful because of knowledge for building our soil.
Ill. farmers outlook letter	Up to date price trends and expected supply and demand for farm products.
Ill. farm economic price Ill. crop reporting service	Because of their use in farm planning.
Raising & feeding beef cattle	Very much interested in cattle and hogs.
Corn borer control	Showed me where to look for the worm.
Outlook letter	Very concise and to the point.
Raising hogs on Ill. farms	Useful to my farming.
Legume grass program #649 Law for Ill. farmer #632	Very interesting.
Ill. farmers outlook letter	It comes often and is with the season; therefore, its information is sometimes helpful right when you get it.
Ill. farmers outlook letter	It is usually on up to date subjects and questions such as soybean and other grain and livestock markets.
Estate planning problems of the farmer	It is timely.
Monthly poultry suggestions	Ideas are timely and practical.
Ill. farmers outlook letter	Because it keeps me well posted on every- thing we sell or buy.
Outlook and weekly letter	No answer
Farm management facts & opinion	No answer.
Weekly outlook letters Farm management letters	They tell about things that I am inter- ested in.
Spray bulletins	They told when to spray for various things in the area in which you lived.
Outlook letter	Factual and short.

Best College Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Heavy Users</u> (Continued)	
Hog literature	Felt that it was true and tested.
Outlook letter	They are short and come often and it doesn't take long to read them.
Livestock publications - feeding and judging	No answer.
#605	Gives an unbiased comparison of corn.
#632 Law for the Ill. farmer	Useful, compact, educational for average farmer. Added reference for questions you don't remember.
Outlook letter	No answer.
Farm management	It gives facts about the farm gathered from a large number of farms.
Weekly yellow sheet Two week bulletin	Get latest news on livestock, land values and economic conditions.
Home bureau publication 4-H materials	No answer.
Farm outlook	Used it more.
AS367 1957 Suggestions for feeding beef cattle AS377 1957 Your hog business	It is a question and answer publication and answers about all questions which would come up.
4-H leaders news letter	Informative and deals with things I am continually interested in and concerned about.
Ill. farmers outlook letter Farm management facts & opinion	Gives the outlook on grain and livestock futures.
How to repair inner spring cushion.	Good illustrations and good instructions.
Farmers outlook letter	Covers all phases of farming and live-stock raising.
Grain drying & agronomy news	Something new and I am interested.

Best College Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Heavy Users (Continued)</u>	
Illinois corn tests - variety performance	Could increase income.
Hay feeding rack - Midwest plan, Iowa State College	I think it saves hay.
Illinois farm economics	Information within.
Illinois test of corn hybrids in wide use	It has helped to pick out superior seed corn for our farms.
Farm outlook letter Farm management facts & opinion	They are concise, to the point, and timely.
#632 #660 Law for Illinois farmer	Has lots of answers that are not found readily elsewhere.
Outlook letter	Because it deals directly with current farm problems.
Fighting Illinois weeds Grape pruning Bramble fruit	They furnished information I wanted and are mostly well written.
Outlook letter	Current and diversified.
#599 Protein in swine rations	Practical and helpful.
Outlook letter	Helped me in marketing beef and lambs.
Making good concrete	It has helped me some.
Yellow sheet by Simerl	Covers all kinds of agriculture and farming methods.
Farm management bulletin	Use them regularly.
Farm management news letter	It always seems to contain much specific and practical information. It has facts and figures that apply.
Showing your dairy animals	Told all facts necessary for showing.
Dairy publication	I am in the dairy business.
Be your own corn doctor	It shows how you can tell what deficiency your soil has and saves some of the guessing on soil maintenance.

Best College Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Heavy Users (Continued)</u>	
Spray schedule	Experiments show when to expect the hatching of insects.
Outlook letter	He gives the latest date on everything.
Save the soil with contour farming and terracing #HE 18 (Iowa State College)	It was so complete in material and pictures one need not have more information to build.
#554 #744 #728 #18	Illustrations and simple wording. Understandable.
4-H	Tells the young people how to take care of livestock and many other things about stock of all kinds.
#599 Illinois plants poisonous to livestock	Uses both description and pictures to suggest poisonous plants and learning to know the plants in different stages of growth.
Protecting your soil	It told in understandable words how to go about this important task.
Fight animal disease to meet production goals #557	If I have an animal that doesn't act right I refer to this bulletin to try and diagnose the trouble.
Law for the Illinois farmer #632	Clear and concise and answered the questions on real property ownership.
Pest control in commercial fruit plantings	I follow it closely as I have an orchard. We need a lot of information in this field.
Outlook letter	Concise.
Agronomy releases once or twice a month Corn performance bulletin	Exact information and clearly presented.
Illinois outlook letters	No answer.
Monthly poultry suggestions	No answer.

Questions 25a and 25b

Poorest College Bulletins and Reasons for Selection

Poorest College Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Answer Given by Non-User</u>	
#593	Did not contain anything of value for my farm.
<u>Answers Given by Light Users</u>	
Publication on field crops (1937)	Out of date as to what farmers were already doing.
Illinois garden guide #522	Time of planting too early for climate.
Ladiana clover for hogs	Not good for hogs' system
Strawberry culture	It was too dated - about the 20's and 30's. Behind the times in present day methods.
Septic tanks	The methods they were using up here were so different that we had to use the type they had here.
Illinois inheritance laws	Too hard to understand.
Selecting dairy cattle #486	For practical purposes the farm family which makes a living from dairying must select according to <u>production</u> and <u>not</u> by pedigree and <u>conformation</u> . Too much emphasis placed on conformation to breed and on registered stock. A grade herd can be a high producing herd and a cow selected on conformation and pedigree (as they do at fairs and livestock exhibits) can often prove a dud at the milk pail!
Preparing seed bed for corn	Wasn't practical with the equipment we had.
Diseases of livestock	Hard to understand.
Farm machinery #309	It was out of date by quite a few years.

Poorest College Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Answers Given by Medium Users</u>	
Hay crushing #693	Because I think crushing hay takes something out of it. I never crush mine.
Kitchen storage space	Outmoded.
February 1957	Because I was not interested in it.
Baking cakes	Hard to follow recipes. Wordy - could have been much briefer.
More vegetables for the table	Least interesting.
Self feeds for hogs	Doesn't tell much you don't already know.
Weed control in small grains	Too much danger of hurting crop. Also killing cattle.
Truck gardening	It didn't apply to my type of farming.
Some useless and impractical recipes.	See first column.
Some of the older ones	Information not specific enough and monotonous style of writing.
Poultry raising	Just used my own system as I had been doing for several years.
Most of those on raising animals	They are always written with the idea of having a perfect set-up which is impossible for most of the young farmers to have when they start out.
Oat varieties for Illinois	Too complicated.
Spraying and caring for orchards	Their spraying schedules and materials to use are too complicated for the average farmer to understand.
Handling of farm manure	It is outmoded 30 years at least.
Poultry monthly suggestions	Do not apply to majority of farmers.
Play book or recreation pamphlet	Seemed to be mostly for square dancing groups.
Report of College of Agr.	Not sufficiently detailed.

Poorest College Bulletin	Reason Given
<u>Medium Users (Continued)</u>	
Some economic facts for farmers #684	A mass of dry but impressive statistics which are left by themselves, unrelated and uninterpreted.
Wills and inheritance laws	There were changes made just after literature was sent out.
The farm woods	Possibly a little over done.
<u>Answers Given by Heavy Users</u>	
4-H stenciling manual	Because only the broadest of information was given, good but not specific. For instance, textiles need different information than metals.
Organizing the corn belt farm for profitable production.	Not too easily understood.
#605 Ill. corn tests 1957	In this bulletin it says that "difference necessary for significance" is 12 bushels or 17 depending on the test. As a rule that's about all the difference there is in 38 varieties.
Refinishing furniture	It didn't contain the information I needed about refinishing.
Swine raising	If you did as the book said you would spend all your time taking care of 8 brood sows; it's no help to a person when he spends all that time on several sows.
Outlook letters by Simerl	They are sometimes too indefinite to be of much value - of course his subject matter frequently does not lend itself to definiteness.
Purdue's bulletin on feeding corncobs and urea.	I believe they set out to prove something instead of adopting the true scientific attitude of experimenting, testing, analyzing and objectively evaluating.
Illinois farm economics	Hard to read. Not written as interestingly as possible.
Older bulletins	Printing was small and too fine.

APPENDIX C  
GENERAL COMMENTS

Verbatim comments made by respondents  
are presented in the following pages.

Comments are presented separately for  
the four "types of users" classification  
employed in the tabulations.

A. Comments by farmers who received no USDA or College publications during last 12 months.

As to above #23, I wish to state that I never asked for or received publications that I was not interested in for a certain purpose.

I use these publications when I find one on a subject in which I am particularly interested. I find these very valuable. I think that these publications would be used much more if more people knew they were available, also if lists of such material were in some way brought to people's attention.

I think a beginner in farming, as I am, can save dollars and hours by using up to date publications. Most of the things published in those books and bulletins has been proven by trial and error, which saves the farmer from trying all these experiments which could prove costly. Everything may not be practical to all farmers, but still one can get the right ideas and then apply them to his operation to the best of his ability. The only trouble with most publications is that they are obsolete by the time they get out because of the rapid changes taking place in farming today.

I can be no judge of these publications as I don't recall getting many of them. We take several very good farm magazines and can find most of the questions we would want to ask in these magazines. A few times I wrote to College of Agriculture for a specific advice - how to start farming with a newly married son and how to clear our water supply. I really think that is the best way to get information instead of filing so many pamphlets - just ask for it when you need it.

I've only had one college bulletin and that was from Michigan. I didn't know the colleges published any. I knew the Congressman had some, but we have always been limited to a few.

We save all USDA booklets. When a question comes up, we check on it in one of these booklets if we have the proper one. They are a good source of information.

I received a notebook containing 127 units issued by U. of I. while receiving on the farm training under G. I. Bill. I refer to this notebook whenever I am in doubt. Although not up to date, I can still receive valuable information from it.

I have picked up some of the publications I have at Farm Bureau Office, and some were mailed to me by a U. S. Senator (those were USDA bulletins.) I have attended Swine Day at U. of I. and thought it was very interesting.

Our opinion is that, since TV has been invented, folks are reading and studying less. We depend on the radio and TV to even read the daily news to us, hence reading is being put aside. I feel this is not good; however, I don't know the solution. Will our young people learn more or less from this method?

Sorry can't answer questions as we are up in years nearing 70. We take different farm magazines, keep up with them.

I been getting along very good as I farm according to ground and weather conditions.

We think they all have some good advantages and are sorry we haven't kept them all. We think you should keep on sending them. We know we will save more and get much use of them, especially now through the winter months as farmers do get rushed once in awhile.

I do receive the Illinois Farmer Outlook letter each week and do have bulletin 605, Illinois corn tests.

I haven't received any of these publications for some time.

I have made little use of publications, but I'm sure they are very worthwhile and give information on most any subject one is apt to want to know. I've often thought I would write in to the USDA to obtain information on ideas, but I fail to do so. I get information from other sources, so I've failed to answer the above questions because I've used publications so little.

Some fertilizer companies say that they have no filler in their fertilizer. For instance, in a sack of 5-20-20, what does the other 35 pounds consist of?

We don't use any at all. As a rule we have no LH-ers, or that would require it; and about farming and homemaking you must do your own way, and of course you can't control weather and so forth. Of course we do have farm magazine and read some of that, our home paper where farm adviser has some news in, so we never did apply for USDA publications at all, for we cannot read everything, for farm magazine gives lot of good pointers for farm and home. That's why we did not mark all the questions, for we do not have and read them.

I can't answer the questions as I don't receive USDA or College publications. I would like to have them sent to me.

Depend mostly on farm magazines. Don't use College or USDA publications.

I haven't received any of these pamphlets since I have been out of high school.

I knew it was possible to receive these publications upon request, from the farm adviser and various other means, but have never asked for them. To the best of my knowledge I have received none of them in the past year. I think they are a very good means of information, and it is my own fault that I haven't taken full advantage of them.

Haven't had scarcely any of these publications in the home since 1947 when the missus used them in her agriculture class when teaching a rural school. Occasionally have brought home some publications from farm adviser, but not lately. We get most of our helpful ideas from the farm magazines, business places, talking to neighbors, etc. about soils, crops, poultry, etc. Have no children at home to be using the publications in 4H and ag classes. Since getting this questionnaire will probably go to using these publications more.

Do not receive any publications at present time; would like to receive material on swine and poultry, also general farming.

I have in the past had quite a few bulletins from the University of Illinois and the U. S. Department of Agriculture. I found that mine were outdated, so disposed of them. I do not recall any particular bulletin that was too outstanding or poor either. What works for them will not always work for a farmer. You can apply their information with some of your own, and I think come out much better in the end.

I like the publications because they are simple and let you know of anything new in machinery and livestock happenings and tests.

These bulletins have been used so little that it is impossible to form an opinion.

We do not feel qualified to answer all these questions as it's been almost 10 years since we ordered any bulletins, and we have forgotten what it was we ordered then.

I don't get the publications anymore because I think we get all the information in the farm magazines.

While we knew about these USDA and College publications, and knew they are free, we so happen never to have used them. I guess we rely too much on radio and farm magazines.

At the present time I get the information published in the bulletins indirectly through farm publications. I haven't used any bulletins since my graduation from high school. The ones I used were very helpful in my project work.

I am now taking a sewing course through our local high school that is a college course put out by the university. It is worthwhile.

It is hard to specify any certain pamphlet in either group that is best or poorest. I would say the one on sewing machines needs bringing up to date. Most on canning and preserving are also obsolete. Usually one relies on instructions with canner. Tree care and surgery are usually adaptable over a long span of time. Lots of such information can be secured from your current farm magazines.

We are sorry to say, but to be honest about the whole matter, we have spent too little time with the bulletins or publications to pass an opinion concerning their value. I think we should spend more time in reading and studying them, and then I think of what we have looked through them we could gain help and information from them in our farm and home work.

The publications we have on hand we asked for at different times on subjects we were interested in. Therefore, it is pretty hard to tell which ones are the best. I think most of them have had lots of thought and experience.

These publications have good ideas, but some of them are not too practical for most farmers.

I do not receive any of the above publications at the present time, but I think I could certainly benefit from them and intend to look into receiving some of them.

Since we are old people, we haven't any interest in these publications.

If we need information on a certain topic of our needs, we seek out the farm advisor, who in turn at times refers us to these publications.

I would like to know where you can get list of College publications and USDA publications as a farmer nowadays just can't get enough information to make a profit and keep up to date with agriculture. I have an old 5-drawer dresser on the porch where I keep all papers, farm magazines, etc. for future reference. Besides that I have a desk and file cabinet.

Sorry I couldn't be of more help, but this is one subject I know very little about. The topics I would be interested in are farming and home-making.

The bulletins we have received usually have good ideas but, for a small tenant farmer, are too expensive to carry through.

We don't use any of these publications but think they should be kept available for anyone who may want them.

I never completed the questionnaire because, to the best of my knowledge, I've never received, or at least not looked at, any such publications. I've seen them, but usually most of the information is published in farm magazines, so I've never sent for any from the USDA or College.

We haven't received any USDA or College publications for a long time and didn't use them when we did.

I do not receive USDA or the College publications so cannot fill this form out. I would like to receive them, as I think they should be helpful. I think if I did have any suggestions on information, it would be on marketing, if possible.

I have found these publications very easy to understand and cover the subject quite well. However, I have not availed myself of these but very little.

I cannot answer your questions very good as I have had very few of the publications. What I have read were several years old when I got them. The things they talked on we had been using for several years. So not knowing anymore than I do, I cannot make any comments.

We have received only a very few publications, mainly pertaining to gardening. We received these by sending for them from a list sent by our congressman. The ones we did receive were very informative, and we will probably send for more in the future.

These reports are sometimes helpful. There are some, such as experimental plots for different varieties of crops, which help to establish new strains. I think among the most helpful publications are the bulletins which describe ways to do things in a simple enough manner that the average farmer can understand and follow them.

For the most part it is difficult to find information in the pamphlets which deals with your particular problem in your particular part of the country, so their value is quite limited.

I would like some information on livestock diseases of sheep and hogs and how to properly feed and raise them. I'll be looking more closely for these publications from now on.

I used to send to our congressman for many pamphlets and have received many from the Farm Bureau which were always University of Illinois or college publications. It keeps one up to date on latest methods, and I'm sure my son reads this and others; as we older folk say, "the younger ones have new ideas and think our ideas are indeed dated." I still read many farm papers.

At the present time I get most of my information from farm magazines.

We liked publications on agriculture and home planning, also on forestry, but have not received any the past year.

Never had any publications sent. Have asked for some but never received any. They are a stranger to us.

We received some USDA pamphlets through a list sent us by a congressman about ten years ago. We glanced through them, didn't see anything that interested us, so haven't looked at them since. Have never seen a list of pamphlets which the University furnishes, so do not know anything about them and if they are free or have to be paid for.

There are a few things in these publications that are all right, such as spraying for weeds and insects and trees; but for fertilizer, I don't believe in it. As we already have a surplus, why put in fertilizer and raise more? I think it would help farm prices a whole lot.

I don't recall reading any specific publications of this type. However, I suppose some of the material I received when I was a Home Bureau member about 9 years ago was of this nature. I imagine this material could be very helpful; however, I've never requested any.

I have never received any material of any kind to date. Can booklets be received through the mail?

I received these pamphlets years ago when I was a 4-H boy and agriculture student and was starting farming. Kept them and am still looking up special problems.

Don't know too much about these publications although I read or heard one mentioned on spot removal which I received, if I remember correctly, through a congressman, and that's been a long time ago. Perhaps we have read of them in the Prairie Farmer but don't recall ever reading of any that we wanted any particular information from.

I would like very much to receive USDA and College publications but never do.

We didn't know about the USDA and College publications as our family is grown now. We have three girls; they all took 4-H work, but the youngest is 22 years old now. We would like publications on gardening, farming, chickens, hogs, and the home.

I would like to receive these publications. To date, I have never received them.

We haven't received any publications for several years but were very pleased with the ones we did receive. If there is an available list of the publications, I would like to have them, please.

We would scan and probably use the information if we received it or had access to a list to choose those of interest.

We have read or used such few of these publications we hardly feel qualified to answer any of these questions. The two farm magazines we take are more than we find time to read along with our necessary reading and work.

Think we would like to have USDA bulletins for future use.

I don't know much about this study. My husband farms like his folks did, and we haven't as yet received any information from either USDA or college. The only thing new, our 2 boys are F.F.A. members, and what they bring home from their study.

I have never received any college publications and never knew they existed. I would like to receive lists of these, because I think I may be more interested in these bulletins.

I enjoy and learn many important facts from articles in these publications. I usually read other magazines and newspaper articles with the thought in mind that they may be exaggerated or not completely exact or true facts, but when reading USDA and college publications, I have all faith in them being exact and true.

I haven't read any of these publications, so I don't know anything about them.

Only one ever received was on poultry from the University of Illinois, and we don't have any poultry.

We received a few publications from Washington, D. C. on freezing and canning is all I can think of. I have had two or three I picked up at the Farm Bureau Office several years past.

This is one report I have never had the pleasure of knowing of. I would enjoy this type material and would appreciate being added to a mailing list or whatever procedure one needs to do.

It has been a long time since we have made use of any of the bulletins available. Any that we had seemed simple to follow and well written. Most of those we asked for were pretty much confirming information and practices we were already using.

As of now I do not remember of ever getting any bulletins from either of the two, although I do think it would be a help to the family as a whole to receive them. Due to the rapid changes of today it would be a help to know different and better ways of doing things. I would be interested in receiving them and shall look into this matter.

I don't get any of these publications regular but have seen them. They never seem to apply to my problems, and I just don't pay much attention to this sort of thing.

I don't think I got any of the publications. I am 54 years old and lived on a farm all my life. I don't think those publications change my mind on farming now.

I think it would be very useful to receive any publications available on farming and homemaking.

In regard to questions above, as I have found all publications helpful to me, I cannot say which is the best or the poorest. All publications I have read I have found helpful.

Have not used the publications as yet but expect to when the children are older.

Haven't had very many of these bulletins. Generally pick up the ones we are interested in when at the Farm Bureau Office.

As for questions 22 through 25, we have used so few of these publications that it would be almost impossible for us to list the best and poorest. Imagine they both have lots of good free information in them. If one would only take the time to look up and send in for information, know it would probably prove to be a benefit.

I haven't received any of these bulletins for so long that it is impossible for me to answer any of the above questions.

In my opinion the time and money spent on many of the publications would be better spent elsewhere. Any publications I have had chance to examine were on topics anyone should be able to figure out for themselves; some were obsolete and others senseless. They had one on making money on strawberries. They didn't take climate, soil, weeds, bugs, etc. into consideration. According to them, all one has to do to get rich raising strawberries is plant them -- no picking, no boxing, no selling, no worry -- Try it sometime.

I have not received any USDA or College publications the past several years. They are available at our Farm Bureau Office if I want them. I cannot make any comments on them because I do not know what they contain. I get most of my information from magazines and the radio.

We have never ordered a publication like the ones you mention. We take several farm magazines and read them from cover to cover. They have all the new information, it seems. They have hints, etc. I guess the occasion has never arisen when we need special help.

We have never asked for any of these publications. We knew of them and have talked of getting them, but never did. In our farm papers we get many helpful hints on so many things, and they are what we depend on. I don't recall just how we learned they were sending the publications, from the newspapers I think.

I think these publications are a wonderful thing and of great value. They are typical of some of the great advantages in our country. However, I would like at least a partial list of these publications and the proper place to address my inquiries to! If people knew where to send to and all the different topics they could get information on, they would be of much greater value. I think very few of us know. Our college should make a list of the various places to get information. I understand you can get many services (from testing water to classifying strange bugs) if a person knew where to send things to.

I think they should be very helpful with the information they contain.

I am sorry, but I guess we just don't pay much attention to the publications. We usually read them, and that is about all. I am sure they are worthwhile if we would study them. Maybe after this we will pay more attention.

I just don't care for them. I think the money spent on them could be used to a better advantage some other way.

Am not interested in these publications. Usually put them in waste basket. Get so much literature of different kinds, seldom read any.

B. Comments by farmers who received 1 to 5 USDA or College publications during the last 12 months.

My main use of College and USDA material was used during high school and college ag days; they probably satisfied some of my desire for ag knowledge. After farming 4 to 5 years, my need for such stopped, other than the prices for fruits on Chicago market and the yearly changes (the most important) in spray material.

I have made some use of College and USDA material which was mainly in College Home Ec classes and first few years of homemaking. Some have very good material; some are impractical, and some are very outdated. I seldom get much use from them now as I find myself with less time to read and use them and also have gotten more experience as the years have passed with which to work. I think they are helpful to young inexperienced housewives, but I somewhat doubt that they are as important as Extension people want us to believe.

We have "Illinois Farm Drainage Law" and "Problems and New Developments in Farm Leases", which were both helpful to us. "Illinois Farm Drainage Law" helped our landlord when he was having trouble with a neighbor about the drainage from our place. Much of the information isn't practical for us as tenant farmers if the landlord does not cooperate.

The College publications are practical. My farm is a fruit farm. Publications of fruit are of more interest to me than other publications.

I would rather not answer some of the above questions. I listed some publications above which I refer to the most and which interest me the most. I feel unqualified to say if there are any publications which are really poor. I feel every publication put out by either USDA or a College has some good information in it if you have a need for it.

We use these bulletins quite often. They have a good line of bulletins, and we usually go to our F. B. office and get them. I can't think of any one thing I would like to have published at this time.

I have received a few college bulletins. I liked them all. They are current, easy to read, easy to understand. I am a farmer, and I like to retread my memory and learn new ideas about a business that once was considered willy nilly, but now the changing times have made its successful operation a challenge to all who are engaged in it.

The ones (USDA publications) on the care and feeding of livestock were the most uninteresting to me; therefore, I felt they were the poorest.

I only read those (College publications) to my interest or that pertaining to grain farming.

I have found some circulars very helpful and, as the general rule, up to date. In using the circulars, I improved some of my farming practices. By taking the ideas from the circulars and discussing them with my farm advisor, we came up with usually a practical and working farm help.

Every year I get bulletins on new varieties of seed and try new wheat or oats, and they always are an improvement over the older ones.

I believe these publications serve a worthy purpose and are used especially by high school classes as textbook and reference material. Farmers obtain some of the information contained in these publications by reading farm magazines and papers.

I think some of the circulars are very informative and helpful although some of them are hard to understand. Some do not give thorough explanations, such as a circular I have in mind about spraying for weeds in crops. I would like to have some kind of listing of USDA publications and imagine others would, too. This would give a person an idea of what he could send for on his own problems. I like publications on different phases of farming, results of experiments, etc. I think some kind of subscription service could be set up for a small charge or no fee that a person could get new publications as they come out. For example, I send my name and address and the particular type of publication I am interested in, and the publication would be sent automatically. The only drawback would probably be that the cost may prohibit such a venture.

I have read many bulletins on different phases of farming and stock raising. Many new ideas can be followed profitably, although you may be disappointed by prices received by the farmer for livestock and farm products. Sometimes you wonder if it is worth all the effort when the profit is figured.

Our use is almost entirely the 3 boys we have in 4-H. Their dad is leader; he uses some, too. Some are a little hard for smaller children to use. I use some in Home Bureau. I could use more but just don't send for them. I think if it was given out more at our meetings, it would be used.

I don't know too much about the publications. We don't use them too often, but what we have used have been O.K. and have helped. I think it probably is mostly what you are interested in, which suits your need at the moment. I think they must print what they know and are sure of, so they should be pretty good.

I don't like the long circulars or bulletins, nor do I care for the ones using too many chemical terms.

I think USDA and College publications are good and helpful, but I do not use many because I do not farm much. I get much of the information I need by talking to farm leaders and neighbors. No doubt much of their information comes from publications. I believe in their (USDA & UI) experiments and the publication of results.

I did not notice until after I got this questionnaire that the circulars I received from our farm bureau office were published by U.I. I am keeping them for future use.

I said in question #9 that the USDA publications were of little practical use to me. That was the way I felt when I ordered some many years ago, but no doubt they are good and help many people. For #10 I did not give

a fair answer to USDA because it has been so long since I have read any USDA publications.

They are a very good source of information on every subject. My son has found them very valuable in 4-H work and vocational ag.

We have used many of the bulletins from the Small Homes Council in the building of our new home.

College publications on labor saving short cuts usually demand an outlay of too much money for the returns you get. They would save many hours of work, but the average farmer would have to spend a year's income or more. If we had an unlimited source of money, these improvements would nice to have but would never pay out! (The colleges are not required to make their ventures profitable! Farmers must.)

Like them. Keeps us up to date on scientific developments. Need solution to smaller general farmer's problems without being highly specialized in the Grade A milk or hog business or poultry business.

I feel like all I have received have been outstanding and not a poor one in the bunch. Some I have never used, but I feel like they are very well prepared for their purpose. This book of 113 units I have just about covers everything, and I sure wouldn't want to part with it.

Most of the material is helpful in part. You just have to use your own judgment with the equipment that you have available.

I think they are doing all right and bring up new things as they come along.

I have used the bulletins very little as they don't come unless they are sent for, and it seems I just don't get around to sending for them. I think they are a good idea, and I intend to make more use of them in the future. I would like to see bulletins on buildings and on such things as hog crates and cattle chutes and the like.

I use U. of I. publications quite often. I pick one up at Farm Bureau office once in awhile or hear of one over WILL, and I obtain it. I think they are very helpful.

For the most part I think the College publications are much more helpful than the USDA articles. The USDA pamphlets to my notion tend to be very general and not specific at all, at least on the subjects that I have wanted information. We especially like the ones which pertain to home improvement, landscaping, etc. as we have a farm on which we are planning to put several of these ideas into use. I would like to see these publications continue and really believe that they are most beneficial.

I think a lot of the USDA bulletins are too general and try to cover one subject for the whole country and, therefore, cannot do any one a real benefit.

The only thing I may say is, sometimes they are not too practical, and sometimes a little late.

I think it is the most wonderful information you can get. Have in all USDA leaflets about 15 and have collected every one from 1939 when I started farming. I like to look over these 2 or 3 times a year and learn a little every time, if it's for a mower for clover and a combine. I think all farmers should read them and other magazines. I have been on the farm all my life, and still I find something new, new and easier ways to farm.

Sorry we are not able to make any comments on the magazines, bulletins and circulars we receive in our home on farming as we do not know whether they are published by the USDA or College of Agriculture.

I use the publications for information I need or don't understand. No particular preference as to the bulletins.

I think the publications are very helpful to the farmer and family! Especially the College publications on canning and freezing foods. I would like more information on canning and freezing foods. Also any recipes or ideas for electric skillet. Also on all kinds of weeds farm animals might get poisoned on so as what to look for. Is there an itemized list of pamphlets available from each department? I depend entirely on these publications for canning foods.

Believe these publications have served as adult education courses for many farmers who haven't had the opportunity of enough schooling. Seems to me all topics are covered very well and up to date. Right now I can think of nothing more for further needs in publications except to cover new methods in farming, which you are always doing.

I think the publications are very useful in many ways, and they can keep the good work up.

Too much expense and baloney in these free gifts. If congressmen want to help the farmer, why not start in our own country and lick the union and cut down taxes. You guys are working on the wrong end of this business. It looks like Uncle Sam will have to have Russia come over and learn her how to take care of things at home. Charity starts at home. First put the union in its place, then travel on.

In the blanks from 22 to 25 I think it would be hard to say as different members of the families had use for different publications. I don't feel like it would be fair to say one is better or poorer than the other. Most of the publications we have used we have obtained some benefit.

These publications are very fine for supplementary work in high school, etc. They are very good for farm and home advisers, ag teachers, etc., people who are studying and working out this type of information to give out and publish frequently. If I wanted to know something about this farm, I more than likely would go to my County Farm Adviser rather than

trying to find out by reading. Livestock trouble or sickness, I'd probably go to the veterinarian. Most of the farm magazines, newspapers, etc. do a good job of printing the important findings of the USDA and College work.

I can't seem to find any bulletins for numbers or title. I think they are all good concerning their point of interest. If they discuss something you're not interested in, they don't have much interest for you.

We have had two USDA sent to us without request, so that is why I left several questions unanswered. Although in the farm papers we do get a lot of information that different colleges that do research put in the farm papers which we do a lot of times go by in farming and different ideas on problems which do arise on any farm.

We find it difficult to answer this questionnaire as we do not make much use of these publications. We try to read articles of value to us for farm and home in the several farm papers that we subscribe to.

Very little reading I have time to do.

I have received very few USDA publications and no College publications but have read many of their ideas in farm magazines. I think some of the articles are very good and helpful, but I feel that some of their advice is damaging. Especially when they announce that hog, or cattle, numbers will be down a certain per cent for the next year, so all the "in and outers" will jump in, expecting a good profit, and what happens? The next year there are no profits for any feeders. I feel they would do more good by warning the public of too large increase in number of animals going to market.

Usually pick up publications for specific problems in county farm adviser's office. 4-H material is sent to youngsters. This could be more complete. Several years ago we received a leaflet with available material from USDA listed. Would appreciate receiving another. There is not enough information about what publications are available.

The USDA and College publications are needed, and some useful. But, personally, I think information is put out too soon and without enough time to realize the practicability of the article in question. I am thinking of the average farmer in this respect. The wealthy farmer can try any of these suggestions by USDA, etc., and if it fails, you don't hear of it. But let the average farmer try the same thing, and you can soon see the results. I am speaking of experience.

Most all the articles we see and read or receive otherwise require a lot of overhead, especially with dairy cows. It seems to be the trend is to a lot of equipment for certain types of meat, eggs, milk, etc. to be produced. My wife and I both feel it doesn't really require all the "fixings" to raise top grade stuff. We have proved that to ourselves and neighbors in the last 2 years. But with USDA and U of I circulars we do know what is ahead, behind, and present. With their ideas and our own, we generally find our answer. Sometimes they aren't pleasing answers, but we have come to an understanding at least.

I think the most of the bulletins could be prepared so they could be read and understood more easily.

Each bulletin or circular seemed to us to be extremely good on that particular subject. As we are planning to build, we studied the Small Homes Council circulars carefully. And we studied our circular on Leptospirosis, believing it was the last word on the disease.

We do not take the time to send for the publications we would like to have, although I'm sure we would read them and find them very helpful if we had them. I would especially be interested in bulletins on modernizing kitchens, built-ins for kitchens, and anything on making the kitchen more convenient, as we are planning on re-doing our kitchen. Also, I am very much interested in landscaping and flowers. My husband is thinking of trying a new kind of wheat (new for him). It is Dual. We'd like information about it. I am not positive about the ones from College. I really don't think we've received any of them, so I can't say about them.

No doubt you will think we are queer people. But when you have farmed so far all of our lives, we should not need any pamphlets to tell us how to farm. We see too many farmers who have college education trying to farm out of a book. This to us is not practical, for what would work in New York or California would not do in Illinois. We are strong believers in organizations and have faith in our farm adviser to get us all the new methods, etc. that apply to our own county. The many farm magazines are also very practical for new ideas in farming.

We filled out a card we received in the mail from the College and sent in, asking for the information on these different subjects. They were sent to us right away. We had heard beforehand from the Farm Adviser and read in newspapers and magazines we could have publications that the College had, just for writing for it.

In years back used many of these publications. The children in 4-H agricultural clubs. The girls in 4-H clubs: cooking, clothing, etc. Later son used in agricultural classes. The men have read many on swine diseases, cattle brucellosis, also grass seeding and waterways. Have had several on children's diseases when they were small. Also used many on canning and later on food preparation for freezer. I think the latest ones we have gotten from Farm Bureau Office were on taxes, Illinois inheritance laws, wills, and joint tenancy.

I don't get enough bulletins to be able to know how much work is being done. When I see something interesting, I send for it. I get a list of free bulletins from the College of Agriculture once in awhile and send for some of them and sometimes from our congressmen.

I like all subjects pertaining to farming and very seldom miss reading one, but as far as standing out in my mind as poor or excellent, don't remember any.

At one time I used the bulletin service a great deal. That was mainly in the 1930's when I started farming for myself. Now with the improved methods of feeding, soil care with fertilizer companies and feed companies doing a lot of research, they are not needed so much. I receive a lot of information from our farm adviser and veterinarian that takes the place of the bulletins. This year I got bulletins from University of Oklahoma and Columbia University of Missouri on Drinking Water from Farm Ponds. These were the only ones I have received in the last few years.

It is hard for me to pick out the best or poorest. I do not read enough of them to be a judge. If I want certain information on a subject, I try to get the bulletin and use the information therein. Sometimes I go to the county agent or adviser. I think all the bulletins are most helpful to me, especially the ones pertaining to farming in general.

We usually scan through the newly acquired bulletins or publications and then put them up for use in looking up any problem or question that may come up. If the publication is on a subject we are not usually interested in, we never get home with it or we discard it soon. However, the information given in a publication that we are not interested in may be just what some other family is wishing for. Farm families need and, I think, most appreciate this help.

It has been my past experience that the College bulletins are far superior to USDA. Within the last ten years I have used Illinois, Purdue, etc. (College bulletins) exclusively. They are more practical. USDA publishes so many that don't pertain to "dirt farming." I like the USDA Year Book, however.

The topic of these publications that I am most interested in is the farm program. Because of the frequent changes in the farm program, it is hard to keep up to date without the help of publications from USDA and College publications.

I haven't used enough of these publications to be able to judge fairly. However, I do know that quite a number of them are used, and several of my neighbors have received valuable information from them. Thus, I would feel that it would be well to continue publication of them.

I think the government crop and livestock report helps one in planning his livestock number. Also, you can sell your grain or store it, using the report as a guide.

Farmers are not informed enough what kind of publications are available. Most of the ones that I have seen are out of date. What we need is a complete list of books available.

I would like to see USDA discontinue the estimated crop yields. I think they hurt the market.

I personally think it impossible to answer the above questions, for in this section of the country we don't get too many things through the mail that we haven't written for; so therefore, the material we get from either the College or USDA is material we are interested in and have sent for because we wanted and needed help on a certain problem. I am a Home Bureau member. The boy is a 4-H Ag member, our daughter belongs to the 4-H Ag and 4-H Economic Club, and my husband is a Farm Bureau member. Therefore, we received a lot of material as well as things we send for. As we get this material, every so often it is gone over; everything of value and of use is kept, and other material is destroyed. Therefore, I could not answer the one on things I didn't like, as there was nothing that stayed in my mind that long. As to the ones that were best, there are several that I use at least every month or oftener, so it would be hard to pick the best. We as a family feel that we get a lot of good from these pamphlets and leaflets.

I don't receive many publications; they have all been good. Get most of my information from newspaper and farm magazines.

Most of my information on USDA and College bulletins has come from leading farm magazines. I take most of these publications with a grain of salt. It is my belief that I can give you conflicting reports on college publications from colleges of neighboring states in most any leading farm magazine in the same month on the same subject. Now, please do not misunderstand me. I do gain a lot of information from these publications, but I don't care to go "whole hog" on any advice that is given. To sight one example: five years ago college and USDA publications were pushing the great advantages of gross silage to beef cattle. A year or two later they decided that maybe gross silage wasn't so good for beef cattle but was very fine for dairy cattle. I have seen and heard college men conduct tests to show the best ration to feed cattle and get the best gains, but they admitted that they didn't take the weight of the feeder cattle upon purchase but the weight of the cattle when they reached their feeding lots. They gained considerable shrinkage weight. College publications and USDA bulletins tell us not to raise fat hogs and then the next month advise us to make our hogs fatter because the corn-hog ratio is favorable. I honestly believe this: if a farmer raises a superior corn crop or gets a high milk test for very long, he is going to have some college call on him for information. I believe that these publications are good relays of information when they come from practical farm operations, but I'm a little dubious of experiments conducted under ideal conditions with unlimited help.

I often would like some of the publications but don't have them when I need them and don't think to send for them. Also, I never know what subjects are available; that I would especially like to have.

I subscribe to three farm magazines and read them fairly thoroughly, but truthfully I can't say that I have read anything outstanding in either from USDA or College publications. I may have at some time but can't recall any at this time.

I have no special interest in them.

For several years we have received from our congressman a check list on certain bulletins which we have always checked and returned, but we have yet to receive the first one. Since our children have gotten out of school and we have no F.H.A. contact, we do not see many USDA papers, some of which we thought were good. The only ones we get now are at the Farm Bureau office, usually on a particular thing.

We'd appreciate receiving a list from USDA and from College of Agriculture of topics we could choose from. We'd like to know what is available from time to time. I would say most of the articles we've received we were satisfied with, that is, for the most part.

I haven't paid much attention to these publications because I read farm papers and magazines closely, also farm pages in the daily papers and read stories of farmers that publish their own experiences that have done well for them. If I thought they were practical, I might try some of these. It always seemed to me that most things are proven and published by some experienced farmer, feed company, fertilizer company, seed company, cattle breeder, etc. before the USDA or College publication is sent out. I certainly am not against these publications even though I have paid little attention to them.

As far as I know, I have not received any USDA publications. The college ones have all been in regard to 4-H work and have come through the Farm Bureau Office. I think that they cover the topics fairly well for each project and are stated simply enough for 4-H members to understand.

I do not pay any attention to the publications. I get all the information from magazines and T.V. and the newspaper. Those publications are for big business, Dr. farmers, and feed companies that are taking away the farm land from the small farmers.

I feel USDA reports on forecast, etc. are based too much on the political situation at the time. They are either held up or announced early to be before or after an election. I have been in their building for publications in D.C. Quite a collection of junk. Some very good information, but a lot of chaff for such a little wheat. As for U. of I. publications, 1st, why base them to suit a prof, such as rock phosphate attitude over the years. 2nd, get the easy access to these papers from under the thumb of the I.A.A. 3rd, make them more reasonable for the average farmer.

Boys in school get most good from them.

For the past several years we have not received any of these bulletins, and I do not remember the names of those we did get. We have no children now so do not bother to obtain them. However, I think the ones one receives from the local farm and home bureau advisers are the best as they

are more apt to deal with questions arising in the surrounding locality. The main reason for my not reading more of such material is, I work at night and sleep during the day, so my reading simply doesn't get done.

The ones I have read I believed were very helpful, and I believe all others would be just as helpful if I used them. The ones prepared on crop varieties are good. I don't really know where to send for them, but have obtained some from the ag teacher at high school through my boys who are taking agriculture. I sometimes (not very often) pick up some at the Farm Bureau Office.

When I am at my local farm advisers' office, I usually look over the display of College publications and pick those that might interest me and give me some information.

I cannot honestly answer above questions because I rarely read the publications. I think a lot of money is wasted publishing them because so many are not practical.

It would be hard to determine the best or poorest College publication. The subject I am most interested in I would consider the best. I like all publications on farming. As for the poorest, I have never read one I considered poor. I have never read any USDA publications as far as I know.

We have only received a few from the bank and a few that we have sent to the University of Illinois for. We would like publications on disease of chickens and livestock, such as Leptospirosis and Leucosis, and a list of the publications available to us.

In general, the USDA bulletins were quite complicated and difficult to understand.

I don't remember any specific pamphlets, but we have used booklets about preparing and seeding pastures, selecting varieties of soy beans and corn seed, and preparing formulae for cow, calf and pig feed. Also, about crop rotation.

I am leaving blanks 22 - 25 because I haven't received enough of the USDA publications to know very much about them. They don't come through the mail, and I don't know how to get them. The ones I have gotten are through magazines, neighbors, and farm advisers. The ones I have and like I save for future reference, but I haven't received enough to give you a good comment on them.

In answer to questions 22 - 25, we use each publication for the information it was intended as in question 13. So we hadn't determined the best or poorest. 26 - When we have some part of our farm business that we need to be better informed on, we go to the Farm Bureau Office for some publication on that subject and also talk to the farm advisor.

C. Comments by farmers who received 6 to 15 USDA or College publications during last 12 months.

Many publications are obsolete before they reach the farmer. However, they represent a good and necessary direct service. Knowledge is a man's cheapest and most practical tool.

I do appreciate the USDA and College publications. They are very helpful.

I think a farmer is very fortunate to have places to go to for reliable experimental information. I certainly found that out when my old dairy barn burned and I was gathering information to rebuild. Today we have a hay feeder which makes it very easy to feed hay to my dairy cattle. I have always through our farm adviser received necessary bulletins to give me information I needed.

I don't use either of the above publications to any great extent. We have a daughter in 4-H and vocational home economics who gets a number of bulletins from the home adviser, and I imagine she makes more use of these than either my wife or me. Sometimes if I happen to be at the Farm Bureau office, I will look over some of the bulletins, such as tractor maintenance and results of test of various types of fuels in farm tractors. I have been to several adult farm classes where Mr. Wendell Bowers of the U. of I. College of Agriculture has spoken and given demonstrations and learned considerable.

My comments on USDA publications are of little value since I have received few over the past few years. I have looked over the lists of publications a few times but did not see many that would apply to our conditions in Central Illinois. USDA have some good men and, I believe, work with the colleges, so I suppose there is some good work done. I know #2010 is good. The Agriculture Experiment Stations are right up to date on their experiments, and our Farm Advisers recommend their work. Illinois Agriculture Publications fit our conditions here. You can depend on them being reliable. They are not published until all tests have been satisfactorily completed. Purdue and Missouri Experiment Stations are also good.

I think as a whole these publications serve their purpose very well, and I try to use any that help me become a better farmer. Sometimes I think they should be revised more often, but after all things change pretty fast these days.

We request the bulletins we want so use the information received. In this way there are no "poorest."

I naturally requested or picked up what I was interested in or needed most. So I would have difficulty in specifically stating which I liked best.

I'm a young farmer with a high school education and some college. The USDA and College publications have a very useful place in all homes of farmers but believe most farmers as myself need an interpretation on a lot of these publications. Reason is most editors and writers are advanced too far above average farmer - thus the farmer usually loses interest in study of these publications. Plain proverb - "Talk the farmer's language, and he will get on the bandwagon."

I feel so many times the USDA publications are so old as to be worthless. Our son got some in 4-H work that he learned a lot out of; wouldn't it be better to teach him the latest methods and means? I sometimes get them but am most always disappointed. I also wonder if so many costly publications are necessary as our magazines and newspapers are doing such a good job of reporting from such publications.

We would like continuance of seed variety performance tests and continuance of yearbooks pertinent to farming.

Topics on which we would like publications: How to choose and judge good beef cattle; how to groom and prepare cattle for show ring (proper way); how to feed cattle to be show cattle; and new and easy ideas and ways of preparing foods.

My choice of best and poorest publications would be according to the use I had for the information in it. I could not say a publication was the poorest because I had the least use for it. These publications had more importance at the beginning of the century when there were no county farm advisers in each county. Then the most studious farmers were best able to compete. Now he pays increased taxes to train and finance his less studious competitor. When a farmer undertakes to produce a new product, these publications are a good source of accumulated knowledge for him to use. The topics I am most interested in now are those dealing with mixing soil chemicals with irrigation water for maximum yields.

I think spraying is a very important thing to keep up on. Fertilizer - new seeds - the feasibility of drying crops.

USDA should leave publication distribution up to each state college and university with the exception of some on homemaking or of general nature. I think there is a publication for almost every question we might need an answer to. We must take the time to find it and read. I would like to know more about the three basic minerals, such as where to and when to use 82%, 20.5% or 33½% nitrogen in relation to lime or phosphate content. Same information on when to use 20%, 46% or 61% or rock phosphate.

They helped in the selection of seed oats, legumes, and grasses. Also in the purchase and maintenance of machinery. When something new comes up, we can get information and find out if it will be profitable to use it. We get a lot of help on fertilization, too. I favor the College because it fits our locality better than USDA.

The Agricultural Situation gives you a quick, easy-to-read picture over the U.S. I like the I.A.A. record to keep me informed on Illinois. I don't like to say what is the poorest as they all play a part in giving us information. I do think you get the truth from the College publications. I just wish I had more time to read more than I do, although I read them all.

I have not referred to them recently, but I really believe we would be better off if we would read them more.

All publications get old and out of date. When a new problem or project is about to be undertaken, it is very helpful to be able to quickly get the best and latest bulletins on the subject. These publications are more conservative than magazine articles but seem to be more reliable and accurate. I would like to mention U. of I. Bulletin 532, Climate of Illinois. I often refer to it when the topic of the weather comes up and have found that it contains a lot of interesting information.

I like to read up on the latest test on hog rations. Lepto - I would like to know more about the test and how the herd can be cleaned and controlled. I think there should be more publications in magazines so more farmers would pay more attention to this disease.

Probably they are doing their best on the reports in the publications. They haven't been changed too much from one year to another.

I have no preference as to a certain bulletin. There are so many different subjects that a general farmer and livestock man is interested in. I like new ideas, new machinery and new methods.

I think these publications are very nice. They help to keep you up to date on the different types and ways of doing your type of work. I do think there should be more of these pamphlets published and made available to farm families.

Conservation. I prefer the College publications as they have been tried and proved; some USDA publications are fine, too, but farmers now have to abide by government programs. Farm B. A.S.C. not much use to read pub.

Make them more specific and apply to practical experience, not to theory.

Do read other pamphlets from other places a lot - from the University Agricultural Experiments and from University of Illinois College of Agriculture Extension Service in Agriculture and Home Economics. Very interesting to read and to know those things even if one doesn't always follow them.

When I graduated from U. of I. in '39, I believe I had practically all bulletins and publications available. After some 15 years during which few were seldom used, I discarded the entire bunch, and now, when I find a need for a publication, I get it at the Farm Bureau and read it. Generally speaking, the information is too general to fit my own special problems. Ideas can be gained and through sensible application can be made to fit needs. I am of the opinion that too many publications are being printed because I knew there are many that are seldom referred to.

I feel that subjects related to farming and homemaking are very well covered.

I like to read articles on all farm subjects, new machinery and new methods. Some things that are suggested would be practical only if you owned your farm or farmed on a large scale. Still enjoy reading them.

The wife says the bulletins she gets from Home Bureau office are not as up to date as those put out by utilities and household magazines. They may have them, but I have never received a bulletin for the home orchard grower; they are all for the commercial grower. I suppose I should use more publications, but I read the farm magazines, etc.

Most of these are not too definite in statements. Experimental colleges should be quicker to give out their results on new methods and more definite advice.

Most publications I have received were not practical for the average farm and were too expensive to be practical.

The USDA publications seemed a little harder to understand than I felt they should. The U. of I. information I have received has been very complete and easy to understand. I think I would like to be able to obtain a listing of the publications as there are several things we would like information about. I don't think the majority of farm families in Illinois know these publications are available. If this were known, I believe more families would use them.

I use these in farm work and in conservation work.

I feel like I knew nothing about this questionnaire. I knew the USDA would send out publications on request, but we never wrote for any. I have seen a list of titles that are obtainable and feel they cover a general run of subjects. All of the College publications we have have come through 4-H. We have a boy and girl in 4-H. The boy chose sheep, and that manual has been most helpful, both for help with his flock and information for his 4-H talks at 4-H meetings. The booklet, You Make Your Own Clothes, has solved a great many sewing questions. As methods have changed a great deal since I was in school, I am very glad for the newer and right methods as I sew a great deal and like what I make to look right.

I have read several USDA publications on spraying and also growing roses. Most of these I picked up at the Farm Bureau office. Also on diseases and treatment of poultry.

The 4-H materials are superior and very helpful - content, format, usefulness to be commended.

College publications seem to be well written, easily understood. Am well satisfied, except sometimes they could give more information on the subject.

All farmers in this area are very much interested in what is in store for us. Most are tenant farmers - up in years - with prices down, what is in store for their future? Surely with all these researches going on, they must be able to solve a small problem like this - Don't we all come equal to all humans? just because we aren't organized - Why doesn't the USDA make a survey of all farms and get to the bottom of small farm incomes - our expenses - cost of living (we certainly can't eat this soil they are so interested in conserving.) So many farmers are selling out, and the areas are not being used for farm ground but for home sites, factories, etc. If everyone does this, eventually you won't have enough farm ground to produce enough to feed this growing world - families are larger.

Of all the publications we received, we get something out of them, but, if we would read them or just glance through them, we wouldn't get anything out of them or only half of the items. It is up to the person or people to get the best out of whatever comes their way to better themselves in reading or attending meetings on the things they are some interested in.

Are health, especially mental health, publications printed? Also more recreation books for age groups of 6 to 10 years.

Most of the USDA bulletins I have seen are about 15 years behind the times. This farming business is changing so fast when you want information, you want the latest, not something they were doing 10 years ago. I can't recall the poorest. If I see something in one I like I keep it; otherwise it is thrown away. Personally, I think there is too much duplication in the bulletins put out by the College and many private companies. (Like to have publications continued?) College of Agriculture - yes; USDA - no.

(Like publications continued?) USDA - no; College of Agriculture - yes.

It is almost impossible to say which publication is best and which is poorest. It very much depends upon what you are interested in and which answers you are seeking. I have read many interesting and helpful publications by both the USDA and the College. I must truthfully say that I believe the College publications have been most helpful simply because they can be more specific to the type of farming, type of soil, market, climatic conditions, etc. From this standpoint and to effect a saving, I would suggest that most of the USDA research data be turned over to the colleges and universities to be interpreted and written up applicable to their particular area. Farmers of a necessity are becoming more and more educated to their job, and agricultural publications help them to know and use the various factors of production to best advantage.

Keep publications up to date; example - answer questions on Hygromacin and Stilbesterol.

Being a 4-H leader, the bulletins are very helpful for starting members and save the leaders much time by answering most of the boys' and girls' questions.

I believe the USDA could save a lot of money if they left the publications to local colleges or universities as the local colleges give information which applies to its own area, whereas USDA is too general in scope; it leaves too much to guess work.

The publications I have are only concerning things I am interested in. To secure these I visit my county extension service office and, if they are not there, I write for the bulletins I want. Most of my publications have been received through my congressman. I receive an index, and I just check this index and receive them. I think it is the most helpful service I have in farming. I hope it continues and improves if possible. I loan many of my bulletins to neighbors.

We like the bulletins that apply to our special type of farming. Cattle, sheep, grain, and how to fertilize and conserve our type soil. Booklets on handy helps and ideas by other farmers would be helpful as printed in some magazines. The USDA circulars are too general, not specific enough to be practical in a definite area.

Some time ago one of our farming magazines had an article on new types of crops that were needed to be raised in more abundance in this country. They were crops that could be used by manufacturer to make polishes, waxes, drugs, etc. and on which the present acreage was very small. I would like information on some of these crops as I have not been able to locate the article to check on crop names.

It seems that there are a lot of good publications, but I am wondering if most of them are written up to help the general state or territory. Where maybe it would be better to print less publications and give more individual help to those that request it. I feel that a lot of the material is never read.

I admit I don't use the publications as much as possible. If a lot of folks knew about this service and what effort is being made to get this out to public, I'm sure that they in turn would be enriched a lot by this service.

I always send for the bulletins I need and receive some through Home Bureau and Farm Bureau. I think as a rule they are practical and, though I can't use all the information, there is always a little in even the poorest that I can use.

I surely could make a number of comments on the use of U. of I. bulletins and circulars and also USDA, but here are a few: 1) Learning how to plant and grow proper garden at age of 21; 2) Learning about balanced foods and meals while raising family of 7; 3) Moving to farm and using bulletins and circulars planting crops; 4) First stand of alfalfa almost perfect, thanks to "How to Grow Alfalfa in Illinois"; 5) Help from bulletin on animal disease in time of trouble; and 6) Help from bulletin on garden pests and insects and disease. I have a very valuable book issued by State of Illinois, title "Growing, Conservation and Use of Vegetables" (Date, March 1933). I think a similar book brought up to date by College of Agriculture would be a very popular item. Much of the data in above item was originally prepared by University of Illinois.

It has been quite some time since I have used either the USDA or College of Agriculture publications. But of all which I have seen, International Harvester put out several some time ago (I don't know if they still do) which I liked very much. They were put up in an attractive way and were very well written. I believe they were the best I ever saw.

I have received publications from the USDA and the University of Illinois for the past 24 years, and I cannot answer which one I think was the best or poorest. I think I have received some good from them all.

I like to read these publications when it applies to me and if it is some new idea that is practical and something I can use. Like to read what's new and short cuts that can be practical.

When certain decision has to be made and I have difficulty in reaching it, I usually resort to the latest bulletins on that subject. I go to my farm adviser first, and if he hasn't got what I want, he either gets the bulletins I need or I send for some direct.

I liked all the publications we have received; only wish I knew how to be able to receive more of them.

I don't think it fair to select any one particular bulletin for the best or poorest. What I might pick out for the poorest might be because of the fact it doesn't apply to me but would be very valuable to someone else. Also I consider most of the publications as very good material as long as it pertains to your particular occupation.

At two different times I belonged to Home Bureau. When I was first married, I enjoyed the University material, but of late I feel as do several of my friends that the material has little new to offer, and anything we want to know can usually be found in any of the good magazines that are found in most homes today. Many times we have felt that articles are written by someone lacking in actual experience along the line he is trying to inform and enlighten the reader.

I wouldn't know how to answer 22 - 25 because we appreciate receiving all these USDA and College of Agriculture publications. We read and study them as we receive them. We keep them all filed away for future references. So one is just as important as the other to us.

I have used a very few in my 4-H club in helping the boys with their talks or their demonstrations.

I use the USDA and College publications for information on farming, pertaining to crops, as it is my main interest.

I love to read; I always get idea, and I love to try them out.

These publications should be more simple and to the point. So many publications have so little or no interest at all, and I believe are just a waste of money.

I don't care to comment or criticize these pamphlets in any way. I am sure they are all O.K. for what they are meant. If they don't all fit in one's program, that is that. I am quite sure that they are very helpful to a lot of people.

The only publications we have ever received were pamphlets from the USDA on prices of farm products, so outside of being able to compare prices of the past and present, they have not done our family much good.

I as a housewife find these publications quite helpful in preparing lessons for our Home Bureau Unit. Some are very helpful on shortcuts for making household chores a little simpler.

We receive a few magazines from Illinois Agriculture Association which we think are really more interesting than the USDA pamphlets. Like "The Record."

All of the material I have received and read was about Health and Safety on the Farm and in the Home, so it is difficult to point out the best and the poorest as they were all on the same subject and all very fine. I have never availed myself of any of the other publications but do know they are very fine if one has need of special help on a specific subject.

I have never received any of these publications, only when I saw them advertised in some of the farm papers. I thought I would have to have a number to order them. I am especially interested in getting any information I can on garden insects and their control.

We do not acquire very many; however, in reading the list of USDA publications, I feel they still print a lot that are outdated and not worthwhile.

We did not answer questions 22 - 25 because we feel that publications of this sort are only useful for specific purposes, and it would not be fair to place one above the other. Every one we have had has been useful for its own purpose.

I have filled out crop reports and livestock reports, and, when they send me those bulletins or publications and make their predictions, they seem to miss it very much. I am not blaming them altogether, but they do not seem to be as near right as I think they ought to be.

I couldn't say as to best of these publications; some had information we wanted, some didn't.

We also fill out blanks sent to us from USDA. For instance, this morning we received an acreage survey to fill out and send back. So we feel these reports are accurate enough to depend on. Of course, once in awhile they miss their prediction, but don't we all.

We only get the Monthly Poultry Suggestions, which makes it impossible to judge one better than the other.

These publications do not come out as soon as the ones put out by manufacturers and are not as concrete in their suggestions.

As we do not use or have completely read too many of these USDA or College publications in recent years, I do not know of any that are really poor. We think you can get good ideas from both, even if you don't follow all their specifications 100%. As a rule we send for the ones we are interested in from our Congressman or pick them up at Farm Bureau building. One we recently used was on strawberries, bulletin #339, College of Agriculture. Also we used USDA #1134 on castrating and docking lambs.

We think publications are helpful many times, but we haven't paid much attention to them, perhaps from lack of time to look them over.

The only one I receive is the Monthly Poultry Suggestions from the University of Illinois.

The only one we receive is the chicken bulletin from Urbana. We don't get any other ones so don't know anything about them.

I do not have bulletins I can refer to by number. Most congressman's bulletins go directly into wastebasket as I feel they are political, and I do not follow politics. Most crop reports are so detailed that we do not go through them thoroughly. When we need information, we go to the farm or home adviser, and, if they have bulletins on what we need, they give them to us. We pay dues to help cover this service. Most government inquiries are a nuisance to fill out, and, when you get the report back, it takes a lawyer to figure it out. We get so many forms to fill out anymore, everybody knows more about our business than we do. I burned some of these; then the postman leaves a note he is responsible for them. Is this democracy? Do we have to tell everybody our business - past, present, and future?

I have found nearly all of the publications which dealt with my type of farming interesting, and the poor ones to me were about subjects that I am not interested in.

They are all important, and the ones that are most important are the ones I need for any problem. When I have a soil or crop problem, they are naturally the most important, and, if I look for a certain poultry disease and cure, then I turn to a poultry bulletin. I can't think of a poor one unless it is one on a phase of farming in which I am not interested, and of course I do not order any of them. I am always interested in new methods and equipment for farming, which includes soils and soil treatment for southern Illinois. Also, poultry, hogs, dairy, and bulletins pertaining to weed control with new methods of sprays and their use in fence rows and also in crops. I am also interested in pest control, grain storage problems, insect control in grains and crops. I have many College and a few USDA publications on all the above, but I am always eager to learn anything new that develops and comes long; that's why I keep sending for them.

These publications were all presented as lessons at the Home Bureau meetings. I especially liked the ones pertaining to sewing and the health lessons.

These publications give lots of practical information. Sometimes they're "dry" reading, but, if you're looking for special info, they are short cuts. We get them often from Farm Bureau office and Home Bureau. The 4-H girls bring publications home often.

I take some farm papers and have years of experience.

So far no comments against except to keep publications as short and compact as possible.

I use the reports from the USDA in helping me to decide how many hogs to raise and when to have them ready for market, and that is about all I pay any attention to them.

Have no particular publication. Get some good out of nearly all of them, especially farm papers and magazines.

We started using College and USDA publications extensively 32 years ago when our 3 children were very young. These publications have truly been our "guide to better living and better farming" in every way. Child care, human nutrition, home management, interior decoration, gardening, home beautification, preservation of foods, erosion control, soil fertility, management and feeding of dairy herd, handling of machinery and equipment and its care, remodeling of farm buildings - these are many of the general areas in which we have received untold help. Only as we sat discussing this questionnaire did we fully comprehend for the first time that most of the basic principles learned and used by us in the past 32 years in living, raising our family, and farming had been learned either directly or indirectly from these publications. Our children used many in their 4-H, high school, and college work. As you can see, our concentrated use of these publications was in the past; there is no one publication that stands out in our minds now as either excellent or very poor.

This questionnaire was a difficult one to answer because we get so many leaflets that many are discarded without being thoroughly read. Also many of the most important features are in the Farm Bureau Bulletin or on the radio. We have kept the one concerning Farm Appraisal and one concerning Landlord - Tenant, which we considered very worthwhile references.

We have never received many publications. The ones we get are more of a statistic nature, and we find no use for them.

More articles on water supply - quality, quantity, etc. More articles on success or failure of small farmer - 80 acres to 150 acres.

We enjoy reading and usually read thoroughly everything we can; then later on we try to put it to practical use.

I have in the past picked up a few University of Illinois bulletins in the Farm Bureau office. I have been a USDA crop reporter for the last 35 years, so I get all the information they put out, but that is all.

I used to be on the mailing list of the University of Illinois but let it drop for lack of reading time. I used lots of University of Illinois and USDA bulletins, and they were very useful when I started raising hogs. The bulletins I get now are those sent out occasionally by USDA. My last one was the September pig crop and marketing report. In other words, I got and read lots more bulletins when I was young and starting out than I do now.

We read these pamphlets mostly for general information. Since we rent, we are hampered in using some of the ideas. Having bought a farm of our own now, we hope in the future to make more extensive use of these bulletins. We are particularly interested in soil conservation on our farm.

We usually check the list carefully when it comes and order those that interest or concern our type of farming. When the children were younger and in 4-H, we used many more than we do now.

Most publications are not kept up to date, and I have more modern knowledge of the subject than is covered in these publications.

I look over publication and go accordingly to way I see it to some extent.

The reports of USDA and the College of Agriculture are pretty much up to date on new methods of farming and on the trends and possibility of marketing of livestock and feed grains. Sometimes some of the recommended practices for one locality or farm don't apply to another. It seems there hasn't been enough thought or time given to some of them.

I am on their mailing list, and I only send for bulletins that are of interest to me.

Certain parts of all are of interest.

It depends on what you need it for.

Is a difficult thing to pin down to any particular subject or subjects. Every publication has something that someone can use. If they keep us up to date on new developments, it is certain to help in some way.

Do not remember these things but do like to read USDA information and imagine that I would like to get the College information, too. I read some of the latter in farm magazines and find it interesting, too.

I would like publications on crops, use of fertilizers, sheep feeding, diseases, dairying. Since I am a jack of all trades and have sheep, poultry, hogs, dairy cattle, grow soybeans, wheat, oats, corn, clover, alfalfa, and mixed hay and grass, I could use publications of any kind.

I used to write the College of Agriculture at Urbana for their publications, and I studied them and kept up on the latest in agriculture. Also, I wrote for the USDA agriculture yearbook. I found some of the reports helped me a lot, and some I couldn't use because of my type of farming. I wouldn't say some were good and some poor because, take for instance the publication on "Raising Rabbits" - to the raiser that could help him a lot; to me it wouldn't help any. I believe all publications should be good ones because they are backed by the taxpayer's dollar.

My use of these publications is when I would check on improvement on any farm project.

We just don't pay enough attention to the publications we receive to comment on last questions. We get most of our information from farm papers and manufacturers.

Most of these publications that I have seen are only for the big farmer who already owns his farm and has it paid for and a sizable bank account besides. Very few of them are very practical for a person farming and renting someone else's land. I think most farmers have enough imagination to do a lot more toward progress if they had the capital and the opportunity. Of course, all of us can't be on top at the same time.

Depends on your interest and need for certain information. It seems to me that most all USDA and College publications are well enough prepared. As with everyone, some would be more interesting and useful than others. Some, especially USDA material, seems a little useless but may be useful to some people with different interests.

All were connected with 4-H work or Home Bureau.

D. Comments by farmers who received 16 or more USDA or College publications during the last 12 months.

My opinion is that there are maybe so many publications put out that we are inclined to disregard a lot that might have some value. Sometimes we resent our tax money being spent on so many things that have no interest to us. This may be a selfish attitude.

Some of the bulletins are of no value to me but may be to someone else if it pertains to their problems. I pick up some of these at our Farm Bureau office and some at the fairs and stock shows. I only send for or pick up the ones that apply to my problems.

This is only my opinion, but from publications we've requested from our Congressman, I think many of the USDA publications could be revised and rewritten, brought up to date. What was true and considered conventional and practical 10 years ago is dated today. Perhaps many have been; maybe our Congressman sent out all older copies first before sending the revised editions. We've gotten some good from them but not as much as we expected. My husband has little time for reading, but he likes the Agricultural Situation better than the crop report he receives. I am a home ec. 4-H club leader and receive the benefit of many bulletins through the meetings we leaders attend, even if I don't request copies of the bulletins. Our county adviser is very helpful and tells us where to send for the bulletins we want; sometimes she orders a lot from the College for us all. I'm really partial to the College bulletins, guess you can see, but I know the latest information concerning foods, fabrics and fashions come to us from them! If the same information is available through USDA bulletins, I am not aware of it.

Many of them seem quite impracticable to many of us because of the expense involved in carrying them out. Would like to receive lists of available publications more frequently.

Some are not practical for our pattern of farming but would do well for other types of farming. In recent years we have not received a list of publications from our Congressman and would greatly appreciate several copies as we have promised friends a copy if they are available. Thank you if you would send us copies. Some people in our community do not know about this service. Both USDA list and University of Illinois list.

I think that USDA and College publications are good because everything the government and colleges put out are all proven facts. In my opinion all the facts stated in these publications are proven over a three to five or ten year period.

The farm adviser put my name on the College of Agriculture mailing list. I do not know if it is free to everyone or not. I also find bulletins from the USDA and the College of Agriculture very useful for special problems that we obtain from the farm adviser's office.

I think that a good bulletin for the farmer's use should be: 1) simplified as much as possible; 2) illustrated with drawings and pictures whenever possible - refrain from using graphs, if possible; and 3) arrange the main points in such a way that they will not be missed and easy to remember; this can be done by a skeleton outline as an index and printing so they stand out from the body of the other material.

I like publications on soil building, farm management, fertilizers, and all things of the farm.

I feel most of them are of no interest to certain people because some are specializing in one field of work and others in another.

There are booklets to cover practically any question pertaining to farming or homemaking that comes up. It explains it well and is up to date. We've used them for the orchard, lawn, bees, animals, chickens, gardening, grains, refinishing furniture, home bureau lessons - handicrafts, etc. I'd feel lost without them.

We have a library of prized bulletins. Home - food preparation, canning, freezing, clothing, home decoration, refinishing and covering furniture. Farm - soil improvement with lime, fertilizers and legumes, insect control, crop varieties, garden vegetables and fruits selection, dairy, hog, sheep and poultry feeding and managements. Type of buildings and many others are used and much appreciated.

USDA bulletins on sheep are very complete.

I would like more information on sprays for weeds and brush and in spraying farm crops.

I just don't pay enough attention to them, and right now can't even find one to refresh my memory one way or another. I can't answer other than that those that do not pertain to my operations closely enough for me to decipher are of no use. I think perhaps a lot of USDA reports are a bit complicated and cover so much territory that they cannot be of too much practical use. College reports and publications come closer to home and are of more use.

I certainly am glad to be getting the different bulletins and letters, especially those from the University of Illinois.

We receive a listing of bulletins available from time to time by the University of Illinois. However, I check only the ones I am interested in - corn yield for different varieties, etc. I appreciate this service very much.

Pamphlets on soil conservation, seeds, etc. are beneficial. Pamphlets on farm building are fine. Pamphlets on farm financial problems are good.

I received from College a list of new released publications. I would like for the College to catalog all the publications like the USDA does.

It is only natural that, if I received a publication that did not interest me, I would probably throw it in the waste basket, so I could not pass judgment on the many poor publications, nor would I have it filed away to make reference to it as to circular number, etc.

It is just hard to say which is best and which is poorest. I read and study those that interest me and that I could get some good out of. All told, I think too much money is spent publishing these.

I receive many bulletins from College and USDA. I enjoy them all if they pertain in some way toward farming. If I want any special bulletin, I ask our county agent.

I am sure that most of these articles are helpful in one way or another even at the time you are not interested in the subject it deals with, but much help and needful information can be gained by these bulletins if you use them even at some future time. This information is lots of times passed on from one neighbor to another. If it has helped one, he will naturally tell of his experience and, most of the time, where it came from. I like the articles published in our different farm magazines on experiments with egg production, milk production, hog feed, and many other things such as ways to make farm ponds, septic tanks, and lots of other things in general. As for my personal opinion in short, I have gained much and needed information on a large variety of subjects, including preparing foods for deep freeze, storing of vegetables, etc.

All we can add is that we would be lost without these pamphlets. We receive more state pamphlets than U. S. ones. For instance, when we wanted to know how to build a sun shade out of an old brooder house, we wrote and got the pamphlet on how to build it. We use them for assurance on other farm and home matters.

I think these publications are very useful and contain a lot of good information. My only complaint is that I wish I had more time to read and use them.

It would be hard to say which publication would be the poorest. I think the majority of the publications are good if the advice is carried out as given.

Our daughter is in college, and she finds some of the information found in the bulletins covering her subjects very helpful. She says she could use more bulletins covering child care if they were available. My wife and I receive many useful leaflets and bulletins through the Farm Bureau and Home Bureau.

Through the years (over 50) the University and USDA bulletins have been very helpful.

From time to time we send for leaflets on specific points of interest relating to the farm and home. As a whole, we are satisfied.

I have received benefit from publications, especially College. I get regular pamphlets from Illinois Farm Outlook Letter, Cooperative Reporting Service, Farm Management, Agricultural Situation, so all are not used as some do not apply. I'd like a publication on the solution of the agricultural price squeeze. Send collect!

I find most of the College and USDA publications are fine, and you can get plenty of useful hints from them, but they both tend to treat a sow or a cow as a major enterprise. If I did as they say I should, I would have time to take care of about 10 cows and 4 sows instead of 30 and 18, besides feeder cattle. They tell you how it's to be done, but only under their way of doing it with plenty of help, all kinds of equipment, and plenty of time to do it in, while on a farm you just don't have time, equipment, and help at your command whenever you wish it. What they tell you is perhaps true, but, as an example, they say never to raise hogs on the same lot or pasture over one year. Circumstances here don't permit it at all times. Raised hogs this spring on dry lot, no pavement or feeding floor. Raised 73 head and at five months of age to the day sold hogs that weighed 209. These hogs cost .08 cents per pound to put on a pound of gain, which I believe is about as good as the University can do with all their small lots of pigs, automatic sprinklers, hog baths, and other things they use. Will agree they put out good material, but one of 50 livestock men cannot follow their instructions as it's not practical and too costly to do as they recommend. The above mentioned lot has had hogs on it continually for the last ten years.

We have always looked at these publications as an accurate reference when we wanted to know something or do something. Personally, we would like to see the USDA yearbooks published again. Their cost wouldn't look too high when compared with the way other government expenditures run. Another change would be to start emphasizing more efficiency in marketing and handling farm products and less in efficiency in producing farm products. We farmers cut costs in producing by being efficient, but the middle man takes a larger and larger cut. For example in the Chicago Milk Shed production per cow and per man on the farm has increased greatly in the past few years. The price to the farmer has declined, yet the price to the consumer has increased. We need the information on how to be increasingly more efficient ourselves, but let's not give the city people the idea that just because a bulletin says a job can be done in so much time at a given cost, the average farmer has the capital, know-how, and opportunity to do it just that way. I believe my reason for feeling this way is based upon the way labor unions as a whole operate. They certainly get more and more for doing less and less. If that is good for the nation's economy, then certainly there is no good reason for we farmers to break our backs being efficient. Keep the publications coming. We like them. As a whole we have benefited greatly from them.

Have not used the larger bulletins so much lately as when I started farming but still rely upon them when wanting to answer a question. Read the regular pamphlets always that are sent in the mail concerning new things, new methods and statistics on grain, cattle, farm land, prices.

I make quite extensive use of bulletins, especially those put out by the University of Illinois. These are usually better because they are written for Illinois conditions. I consider these the best source of information. I set out my orchard - a small home orchard - according to University specifications and used a bulletin to prune and spray it. Before getting any new crop variety like oats, barley, and alfalfa, I would get the University's rating of it.

Our main interest being in the production of livestock, we like releases of current efficiency practices and blueprints on labor saving, housing, and equipment. Also on prevention and cure of current disease problems, recommended protein levels, and grains for most economical gain. Projected outlook on supply and demand.

We like L. H. Simerl's weekly outlook letter. I would like more bulletins on flowers and their care.

I would like a USDA publication of different bills that come up in Congress concerning dairy and grain, also beef cattle. The pro and con on said bill. I am very well pleased with the publications I received from the College. There are only a few I do not read at all. The ones I don't read are the ones I am not interested in so don't recall the topic.

If they pertain to my type of farming, I like them.

I use Farm Bureau Farm Management Service most in keeping my records and determining which phases of my operation are most profitable.

I was once very disappointed when I wrote for a number of USDA bulletins and found that very few applied to our conditions. I would be in favor of more thorough experimentation both by the USDA and the colleges of agriculture and more extensive use of the data that is available (making better use of DHIA records, for example). Much paper is wasted printing undigested (and possibly indigestible) statistics. Lists should be sent to farmers with enough information so that they could tell whether a bulletin would actually be useful to them. Generally the criticism that could probably be most fairly offered is that many subjects are treated on which the colleges have insufficient data from scientifically controlled experiments. I realize that this is because the colleges lack funds for more thorough experimentation.

I think all the 4-H material the College puts out is very useful and a lot of help.

I have enjoyed and profited much by publications through Home Bureau. My daughter is an expert seamstress, thanks to 4-H club home economics.

As to suggestions, my wife and I feel if all the publications could be made a standard size and punched for notebook filing, it would be a help. Large print and short paragraphs help make the publications more readable, also pictures and graphs. Most are good in this.

I didn't fill in publications that I considered poorest because I consider most that I have seen to cover the purpose for which they were written. I have quite a large file of both types of farm bulletins (USDA and Univ. of Illinois). I am an Agriculture College graduate, so you can see my interest in their research and detailed study. My local farm adviser has a sizeable file of these bulletins, and often I request them from the College direct. They have helped us on the farm immeasurably.

I know there are lots and lots of publications from both USDA and the colleges that are of no practical use. Perhaps I only pick up the ones interesting to me.

I particularly appreciate the bulletins handed out on Swine Growers Day, Cattle Feeders Day, and such times as that. You get so much information those days you can't remember it all unless it is written down where you can refer to it.

I was raised in a home where we never dared throw any bulletins away. My dad really read, enjoyed, and used them. I believe they are of great use though I'm partial to College publications.

It seems I have always been familiar with USDA publications. When a child, a butter problem brought a pamphlet, also plans for a hen house wherein the combs wouldn't be frosted, how to make cheese in the home and on and on. Now if we want help, we see our adviser, and he has or gets the needed help, such as remodeling barn and building a milk house. We find much in the farm papers and radio from both USDA and College. When we wanted to build a home, the county adviser loaned us his huge folder filled with advice from foundation to best roof pitch, floors to insulation. In fact, aren't most of our present farming and living practices the result of the experimentation and release of the findings of both of these sources? We and the boys use so much of the material we do not know whom to credit. We notice an increasing tendency of industry, i.e. chemical, feed, and metals, etc., to do their experimenting and informing.

These publications are important because we get information that has been tried and proven. We can't afford to experiment on some of these fields. In the orchard spraying is all important, and we must know what is the best material to use. We must continue to use them to stay with the new methods and to learn of the diseases and insects.

One of the main things we appreciate is the fact that these reports come as loose mail and not in envelopes. One can immediately begin to read them and tell at a glance what the subject is about. Also it shows a saving of money for unnecessary envelopes - which is fine.

Would like USDA bring theirs up to date.

Don't care if they continue to prepare publications since we get so much from farm magazines.

We really don't make much use of these publications. This one we get is sent out by our local bank.

We have all received so much help from the University of Illinois publications. Now the boys, age 12 and 10, are in 4-H and receiving pamphlets on the raising of purebred (Duroc) hogs. Our daughter, 7, will be wanting to know of cooking and sewing later when she is old enough to be a member of 4-H. She will have no trouble finding help through publications.

I don't believe that any of the publications could be classed as poor.

22 and 23 I did not answer because most of the data that is published is old stuff by the time it is published in magazines, TV, or any other form of print. Why? I don't know!

I receive most of these publications as I am and have been a crop reporter for a number of years for the USDA.

Expect we get more information out of the publications than we figured - through magazines, etc. Sometimes we think money has been spent foolishly to go into some subjects, but of course maybe there are some people interested in it. Sometimes, actually farm conditions and practices differ from the way the publications talk, but usually are fairly practical.

No one certain bulletin; publications that are of interest appeal to me and perhaps not to some farmer that has other farm type. I think the publications are very important to farmers if they will use them, for to me they show how to do something new usually or how to do something old better or more economically. I especially like the publications relating to livestock, feeding, etc.

The publications I have requested from time to time (hundreds in all) have been ones about subjects that I was interested in, and I have found them helpful. I, therefore, find it impossible to point to any and say they are poor. They have served a good purpose for me, so I do not find them poor.

We are older now and do not have as much use for these publications, but they are good. Now we cannot take part in all of the farm work we used to do, but we are interested in homemaking, poultry, dairy farming, and truck farming.

I'm sorry but we do not get any monthly bulletins from any college. Our boys are all married but one, and he's been through school for years. But we do send for bulletins from our state representatives when we need help and advice on things, and believe me we need a lot of advice to come out ahead these days. These bulletins are from U. S. Department of Agriculture.

Don't know of any that stand out one way or the other. Like the ones on crop and livestock outlooks and reports.

We have read publications from our Farm and Home Bureau offices in which we were particularly interested for many years and have not given any particular thought as to which was better than others.

Most all are good, but most people are interested in the ones that fit their type of farming, so it is hard to rate them.

The biggest opposition to these reports is that most crop reports are much larger at the beginning of harvest, then when everyone has taken their crops to the elevators, the crop reports are lowered. This causes farmers to lose because the prices go up. I think that actually loses money. If these reports are being put out, I think they should be more accurate.

I noticed a lot of interesting bulletins in the rack at our local Farm Bureau office that I had not received. Perhaps you do publish a list of all bulletins and their number, but I don't ever recall receiving one. I think at least once a year such a list should be made available. I have received such a list from the USDA but have not from the College of Agriculture. Regarding the questions above that I did not answer. You ask me to be frank, and I will do so. I don't think there is any such thing as best or poorest. What would be best for someone will not be best for others or vice versa. Also, at a different time of the year one bulletin may be very good, and at a different time I might not even want to read it. So how can I tell whether or not it is good or bad?

In answer to the above questions, I would not say that anyone publication was outstanding above the rest. I have used many different ones including publications on raising hogs, red clover, Ladino clover, better pastures, farm fish ponds, corn fields, raising soybeans, plants poisonous to livestock, farm drainage laws, family farm transfer arrangements, to name a few, and others. The information from these publications proved useful and suited my purposes. No certain one was of too much greater value than another to me because they all helped me plan and do my work. Some articles, such as moldboard plowing, setting the plow, etc., are suitable but not up to date with the new cutters, etc. that are on the market. I usually do not order pamphlets unless I have a specific item or project in mind, and as a general rule I keep all I receive. I am a crop reporter and receive those letters and publications sent out by the USDA. I am also a member of the FBFM program and receive letters and material from the College. Some of the information I receive is very helpful, some is of lesser value, and there are several items that do not apply to me at all in my operation. (That is in reference to crop reporter and FBFM letters and bulletins.)

The great amount of College publications coming to us is due to several factors: (1) husband is 4-H leader; (2) wife is County Home Bureau president; (3) children are all active 4-H members.

I generally prefer U. of I. publications over USDA's as the College publications are more applicable to local problems.

We are only a small grain farm. Use our own judgment as to crop rotation, etc. If we have a problem, we go to our local farm adviser for assistance. We read very few of these publications.

I think that most farm people are not aware of the help they can get on building, remodeling, gardening, orcharding, and many other topics that would help them from government pamphlets and also college pamphlets. These pamphlets cover almost every phase of farming.

I don't feel qualified to answer questions above, but I have found information in them to be reliable, to the point, and practical.

I have a Series of Lesson Units Prepared by Vocational Agriculture Service, University of Illinois, that I like very much and doubt whether they come any better than this. I have them in a binder form as they had holes punched. There is an index by unit number pertaining to different subjects. I don't know whether I have them all or whether they are being published regularly or not but sure would like more. I refer to this source of information quite often.

Have farmed for 30 years and feel rather successful. I give a lot of the credit to information I have had from College and USDA information. I feel that if more farmers would use the service, they would be better off.

Having been a Home Bureau member 16 years, can't say what one publication was best. The women of our county have some very good material from the college although I think they repeat the lessons from year to year. We ask for lessons on some problems, and the Home Ec. will give us something else; for instance, our county has asked for several years for a lesson on caring for wood floors and woodwork, natural and varnished finishes. We get caring for linoleums, etc. They tell us to go to paint dealers or building contractors. Can't they progress in lessons as the building trends change?

I am interested in the Outlook of Cattle, Hogs, Sheep and the crop reports of corn, oats, and soybeans. Sometimes they estimate right and sometimes they don't. We used to be in the Farm Management Service, but we aren't anymore. The Ill. Farmers Outlook Letter came through the Farm Management Service, and they are still sending it. We would like to have a test on different tractors, such as the Nebraska test. Where do you get it?

Sometimes the same publication that I receive weekly, monthly, I do not like at times; then again they have very good information. It is hard for me to say which is the best and which is the poorest.

USDA publications as a whole are too late with their information, as compared to most experiment stations. My preference is the College publications from the timeliness standpoint and from the way they are written.

I do not have any choice. I have always liked to use the publications to keep up to date with the tests, etc. being made in farming and livestock programs.

Some of the USDA publications are not kept up to date.

I have not answered the above question because they do not stand out in my mind. Most of the College publications are very satisfactory and answer specific questions. Most USDA publications are not as specific but are quite satisfactory.

Wife belongs to Home Bureau, so she gets a pamphlet every month from the USDA. I send reports back to the State on crop acreages, amount of livestock, etc. and receive reports back explaining agricultural situation. I think Bert Newell sends them out. I do not believe that we get any College publications as far as I know.

We were referring to the publications distributed through our Home Bureau in the foregoing answers, not especially to any one publication. As a rule, these publications distributed through the Extension Service of the University of Illinois are very informative and easily read.

Try to report more on latest findings by feed companies, etc.





